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DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXX, No. 21

Section 1

January 26, 1931.

RELIEF HEARINGS The press to-day says: "Hearings before the House appropriations committee on the \$25,000,000 food amendment attached to the Interior appropriation bill by the Senate will not be hurried. Indications last night were that Secretary of Agriculture Hyde, Dr. C. W. Warburton, Director of Extension Work, and Thomas H. MacDonald, Chief of the Bureau of Public Roads, will occupy all the time this morning....Representative Cramton, chairman of the Interior subcommittee of the appropriations committee, who arranged for the hearings in the absence of Chairman Wood, explained that with the drought-relief law in operation the Department of Agriculture has been in position to make a fairly accurate check-up on the general situation in the drought-stricken area and its officials can throw light on the need for food relief. Mr. MacDonald has been called to outline progress in connection with increased appropriations for highway construction, another relief measure...."

RED CROSS FUNDS Nearly one-fourth of the \$10,000,000 drought relief fund requested by the American Red Cross had been received yesterday, when the total contributions reached \$2,125,400, according to the press to-day. This was an increase of \$454,448 during the last 24 hours.

FOOD GRANTS A Marked Tree, Ark., dispatch to-day says: "Three and a third cents a meal is what the average destitute drought sufferer is living on, if he eats three times a day. It is five cents if he eats twice, ten cents if he eats once. The Red Cross gives each family \$2 a week, plus 50 cents for each child, up to a maximum of \$4.50 a week. There are five persons in the average family being fed, relief workers say...."

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE An Albany dispatch to-day states that a series of meetings of the representatives of seven Northeast industrial States to consider the proposal of unemployment insurance has been decided upon by the governors of the States, convened at Albany for an unemployment conference. The first meeting will be held in New York City in the near future. The representatives of the States will be asked to examine the subject of unemployment insurance from the viewpoints of European experience, voluntary unemployment insurance in America and variations adapted to American industry. The conference, officially closing yesterday, was called by Governor Roosevelt and attended by Governors White, of Ohio; Larson, of New Jersey; Cross, of Connecticut; Case, of Rhode Island; Ely, of Massachusetts, and Dr. Charles Ritoll, representing Governor Pinchot, of Pennsylvania, who was unable to attend.

SWIFTS TO SELL FRUITS A Chicago dispatch to-day reports that Swift & Co., packers, announce they will add complete lines of canned fruits and vegetables to their products. This is the first indication any of the four larger packers have given of a change brought about by the recent modification of the packers' consent decree.

Section 2

Ayres on Conditions Col. Leonard P. Ayres is quoted in Commerce and Finance for January 21 as follows: "The year 1930 was full of unwelcome surprises. The world-wide drop in commodity prices was the most serious. The collapse in the value of silver was important. The astonishingly drastic decline in the market values of our stocks and bonds, and of foreign bonds, brought unexpectedly great losses to large numbers of individuals and corporations, and for the most part such losses are irretrievable. The severe drought was a surprise; the world-wide political unrest was unforeseen; the erratic dumping of products by Russia was not predictable. The failure of many banks in this country which has fundamentally the soundest of all banking systems, and the strongest individual banking units, was an unexpected development. Finally, the greatest surprise of all was the discovery that business was not fundamentally sound, coming after the almost universal acceptance of the numerous declarations that it was. The past year was one long series of surprises to business, most of them important, and nearly all unfavorable. In all our long business history, the second year after a panic decline has never been as bad as the first year. Before the end of the second year, business has always had its readjustments far enough along to get under way at an increasing pace. It may even prove that the worst of the depression has not yet been reached, but nevertheless the weight of probability is distinctly in favor of durable improvement beginning in 1931. American business has spent an entire year in adjusting itself to now, unfavorable, and unexpected conditions. This is the best reason for believing that it will do better in 1931 than it did in the year just closed...."

Building in Cities Reports were received by the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics from 293 identical cities having a population of 25,000 or over, showing building permits issued during the months of December, 1930 and November, 1930. Permits issued in these cities indicated that there was an increase of 8.1 per cent in the estimated cost of total building operations in December, as compared with November. While the estimated cost of new residential buildings decreased 11.4 per cent. Comparing December permits with November permits the estimated cost of new non-residential buildings increased 18.3 per cent. The estimated cost of all building operations for which permits were issued in these 293 cities during December was \$128,909,902. According to permits issued in December, 1930, dwelling units were provided in the new buildings for 9,368 families, which was a decrease of 14.9 per cent as compared with the families provided for according to permits issued during November. Comparing permits issued in December, 1930, with those issued in December, 1929, there was an increase in the estimated cost of all building of 2.6 per cent. This is the first month of 1930 in which the building operations for which permits were issued showed a higher estimated cost than the corresponding month of 1929.

Cocoa Industry of Gold Coast An editorial in The African World for January 3 says: "The present stagnant state of the Gold Coast cocoa industry due to the refusal of the growers to dispose of their crop at current prices, continues to give rise to grave anxiety in West African commercial circles. The prevailing market depression and the low prices ruling

for cocoa are apparently erroneously regarded by the Gold Coast farmers as something in the nature of a conspiracy to deprive them of the just fruits of their labors, and they declare that if they can not obtain what they consider a remunerative price for their product the decline and eventual extinction of the industry are inevitable. Accordingly, acting on the adage that 'Heaven helps those who help themselves,' the leading growers, with the support of a number of Paramount Chiefs, have formed a 'Gold Coast and Ashanti Cocoa Federation,' the members of which pledge themselves to withhold their cocoa from the market until the scale of selling prices, fixed by themselves, is agreed to by buyers--prices which, it may be remarked, are over 100 per cent higher than those ruling at the moment--and recent reports to hand from the Agricultural Department show that the resolution has so far been strictly adhered to, though the federation's spokesman has now announced that 'a limited quantity' of cocoa is to be gradually released, under the control of a board of members of the federation."

Farm Taxes

An editorial in Capper's Farmer for February says: "Nearly a third of the net income from farms, 31.4 per cent, was collected for taxes in 1923. That was an increase from 26 per cent the year before. Increases in net return lowered the relative percentage to 22 in 1924; and to 20 per cent in 1925. The percentage was 22 in 1926 and 18.5 in 1927, the last year for which published figures are available...The taxes involved are those assessed directly against farms and tangible farm property. No account is taken of taxes paid on money, investments or other intangibles nor the taxes passed on to farmers by other groups. In 1927 farmers paid 901 million dollars in taxes on farm property alone. This amount is more than 10 per cent of the total taxes collected in the United States that year and 17 per cent of the State and local taxes. The total tax bill of farm property can be visualized by a comparison with that of railroads, one of the Nation's greatest industries. For a number of years the carriers have been calling public attention to their payments in support of government...Unfortunately figures are not available for the increases in agricultural taxes so that a definite comparison can be made, but staggering as the railroad tax was in 1929, the farm tax was more than two and a fourth times that amount in 1927. Taxes are taking a greater percentage of farmers' net income than they are of the railroads' and out of what farmers have left they pay a portion of the railroad taxes indirectly through the purchase of goods, a part of the purchase price of which is freight... Information on the portion of city property income paid out in taxes is too meager to admit conclusions, but statistics from nine States indicate that farm property is paying at least as much proportionately of its rent income as city property is. In five of the nine States, Arkansas, Colorado, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Virginia taxes take a larger portion of the net income from rented farms than they do of the net rental of city property...Now what will happen in this tax situation if the present tendency is not checked? The collections are approaching dangerously near the average income when other demands upon that income are considered. Will they eventually absorb it? They already have taken some marginal land and they will take more. As costs of production increase, as land values decrease, as mortgage debt increases, as fertility is depleted, more and more land becomes marginal

Much of it, sold for taxes or under foreclosure, will become, as in the past, profitable under new management. But even so the land thus liquidated is quite likely to bear a lower valuation on the tax rolls than it did before. With no effort to reduce taxes in general or to adjust the burden, the better land will make up the loss occasioned by revaluation of the marginal land....Two things must be done. Inequalities must be adjusted and greater efficiencies must be brought about in government. The taxes on land and real estate may be reduced by taking a greater portion of the cost of government from other property. Possibilities for adjustments in this direction are offered by the graduated income tax in those States which do not now levy such tax. I am in favor of such a tax. In those which have income tax laws, a reclassification with higher levies on the larger incomes will afford some relief to real estate. Aside from those adjustments which will make each class of property pay its just share, the only relief possible is in lower taxes...."

Wool Market

The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for January 24 says: "There has been a rather better distribution of wool this past week at slightly lower prices on the whole. A better demand for three-eighths combing wools is reported, and further movement in scoureds for woolens. Fairly heavy sales of noils have been made and the market is steadier. The opening at London was rather lower than expected. Since the opening, prices have been maintained without material change, but withdrawals have been heavier. The foreign primary markets are lower again this week on a landed basis in bond. More activity is noted in the piece goods market, but largely for prompt deliveries."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in The Michigan Farmer for January 17 says: "During the past year the various experiment stations over the country were engaged in investigating over 7,000 lines of agricultural research work. These investigations concerned production, distribution, marketing and home making. While these stations have been working for a half century, they likely will have more questions to be settled in coming years than they have this. All of which leads us to wonder what kind of business farming is, that there should be so many unsettled matters relating to it. It does explain, however, the wide differences in the net results from farms having common conditions but different management, and it also indicates why farming is such an interesting occupation to the man who studies his job."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Jan. 24.--Livestock: Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$7.55; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8 to \$8.25; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$8.25 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations).

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 74 to 78¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 80 to 80½¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 79¼ to 79½¢; Kansas City 68½ to 69¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 63¼ to 64¾¢; Minneapolis 54 to 55¢; Kansas City 54½ to 55½¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 62¾ to 63½¢; Minneapolis 56 to 58¢; St. Louis 63½¢; Kansas City 57 to 58¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 31¾ to 32¢; Minneapolis 28 5/8 to 29 1/8¢; Kansas City 32 to 33¢.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 13 points to 9.47¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 16.67¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 15 points to 10.33¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 14 points to 10.32¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.75-\$2.15 per 100 pounds in city markets; mostly \$1.35 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.40-\$1.50 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.20-\$1.25 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Danish type cabbage \$16-\$21 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round Type \$2.25-\$2.75 per western lettuce crate in eastern cities; 80¢-90¢ f.o.b. Lower Valley Points. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions ranged 75¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 75¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Florida Missionary strawberries 40¢-60¢ per quart in city markets. Florida Aromas in 24-quart crates, 40¢ per quart in Cincinnati. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$3.75-\$4 per barrel in New York City; Ben Davis \$4.25 f.o.b. Rochester.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 29¢; 91 score, 28¾¢; 90 score, 28½¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 17½ to 18½¢; Single Daisies, 16¾ to 17¼¢; Young Americas, 17½ to 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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Vol. XXXX, No. 22

Section 1

January 27, 1934.

RELIEF HEARINGS

The press to-day states that at the hearings yesterday before the House appropriations committee on the \$25,000,000 food amendment attached to the Interior appropriation bill, Secretary Hyde said that the Department of Agriculture was ready to begin with the seed, feed and fertilizer loans. He stated that of the \$116,000,000 construction appropriation for unemployment relief passed by Congress, \$80,000,000 went to the States for highway building.

C. W. Warburton, Director of the Extension Service, said the need for relief was particularly acute throughout the Southeastern States and that it was difficult to distinguish between farmers whose distress was the result of drought and those whose condition was due to the poor cotton crop and the generally low level of prices.

Thomas H. McDonald, Chief of Bureau of Public Roads, told the committee that, in addition to the \$437,500,000 of Federal funds to be available to the States for public roads in the spring, \$200,000,000 would be contributed by the States for new work and \$173,000,000 for maintenance. He estimated that thousands would find employment through these funds, the first men being put to work March 1, and that 3,000 would be employed in Arkansas alone.

SENATE VOTES FARM BOARD GRAIN

A bill authorizing distribution for relief purposes of 20,000,000 bushels of wheat now held by the Federal Farm Board last night was passed by the Senate, according to the press to-day. The measure was passed without opposition and now goes to the House. It provides the Farm Board shall turn the wheat over to an agency to be selected by President Hoover for distribution to drought-stricken and unemployed in need of food. The cost of milling the wheat and distribution would be borne by the agency selected by the President. The Farm Board would be credited with the cost of the wheat, so the bill would not affect its operations.

RED CROSS RELIEF

The press to-day states that additional contributions of \$79,587 to the Red Cross yesterday brought the total in the drive for a \$10,000,000 relief fund for the drought area up to \$2,204,987.

DROUGHT IN ARKANSAS

A Harrisburg, Ark., dispatch to-day says: "Lack of credit is intensifying distress in the Arkansas drought sections. Bank failures have swept the State--more than 100 closing in the last three months. Those still operating already have more farm paper than they want. The result is that in some instances owners of small farms have been driven to the Red Cross for food for their families..."

SALARY LEGIS- LATION

The press to-day says: "Government employees yesterday lost the first clean-cut battle in the House over proposed appropriations to provide 30 per cent of the amounts necessary to bring underaverage salaries up to the point specified by law...."

Section 2

British Nature (London) for January 10 says: "The meeting of the Third Entomology Imperial Entomological Conference, which took place in London on June 17-27 last, has been regarded as a suitable occasion for a kind of stock-taking of what is being done towards combating insect losses in the British Empire. The Imperial Bureau (now Institute) of Entomology has done a useful service in bringing together data on this subject in an accessible and convenient form...When the losses due to insect depredations in the British Empire are represented in man-power, we arrive at some striking conclusions. If it be admitted that 10 per cent is a conservative figure at which losses due to agricultural pests alone may be placed, it would seem that one-tenth of the human effort on such a basic industry is dissipated by insect enemies. Taking the population of the Empire at about 450 millions, it may be assumed that an additional population of 45,000,000 could (if it were possible to eliminate insect pests) be supported by the same effort as that now exerted. It is estimated that in the Indian Empire, for example, the losses in 1921 due to crop and forest pests alone reached the huge total of 136,000,000 pounds, while the death-roll among the population due to insect-borne diseases was stated to be about 1,600,000 persons annually. In Canada about 30,000,000 pounds is lost every year through insect depredations among field and fruit crops and to forests. In South Africa one pest, the maize stalk borer (*Busseola fusca*), incurred losses of about 2,750,000 pounds in a single year. Figures of this kind are, naturally, only estimates, but they serve to drive home how great these losses are. The losses to human communities by death or ill-health arising from insect-borne agents of disease are most likely even greater than those occasioned to agriculture, but it would be exceedingly difficult to assess them. A comparison of the effort made by the British Empire in coping with its entomological problems and that made by the United States is of considerable interest. The British Empire, with an estimated revenue of 1,400,000,000 pounds, devotes, in round figures, some 570,000 pounds annually to work of this character, or 0.03 per cent of its income. There are fewer than three hundred professional entomologists employed among a population which greatly exceeds 400,000,000 souls. The United States, with a population of about 106,000,000, spends an approximate sum of 2,000,000 pounds (State and Federal allocations) annually, which works out at 0.25 per cent of its revenue of 800,000,000 pounds. It employs, moreover, not less than five hundred entomologists. The question is raised as to whether the British Empire can be justly claimed to be bearing its share in the world problems of insect control. On the basis of the United States' expenditure, that of the British Empire should be nearly six times as much as it actually is. Although insect problems in the United States are on a vast scale, they are more restricted in variety, and that country is faced with no responsibility so great as the tsetse fly problem in Africa and its immense toll of human life. The responsibility of an Empire so scattered, and concerned with so great a range of crops, peoples, and pests, would, therefore, appear to be a heavier one than that shouldered by the United States...."

Farm Paper
Merger

"Burridge D. Butler, publisher of the Prairie Farmer, recently announced the purchase of the Illinois Farmer. The latter publication, which has been issued for 34 years, and is owned by Dante Pierce, now of Des Moines, Ia., will cease publication, Butler announced. Arrangements to send copies of the Prairie Farmer to subscribers of the Illinois Farmer are being made." (Publisher and Printer, Jan.)

Filene on
Distribution

An editorial in Editor & Publisher for January 24 says: "Great changes are coming in distribution methods in this country, says Edward L. Filene, head of the big Boston department store bearing his family name and co-founder of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. He blames high prices for the lessened volume of production and consequent unemployment. He calls our present system of distribution basically anarchistic. Here are views voiced by this well-known economist: (1) The average commodity retails at double its production cost, while many articles sell at three, four, five and even more times cost price. The spread is not due to profiteering on the part of the merchandiser, but to great wastes involved in distribution. (2) In the future a considerable part of the Nation's distribution will be in the hands of vast chains of department stores, with immense economies and true scientific practice. Chain stores will be open five days a week, for eight hours a day, 'because we have learned that mass production is production for the masses, and that the masses must have time to consume the mass of products if mass production is to succeed.' (3) In 25 years all life necessities will be standardized. There will be no bargain advertising. But there will be more advertising, directed to helping the public inform itself on the products offered, rather than a concentration on prices. (4) With higher living standards, increased leisure, more intelligent and deliberate shopping, scientific merchandising and waste cut from distribution, many of the most serious problems of the day will fade from view."

Forbes on
Situation

D. C. Forbes, writing in Forbes for January 1, says in part: "The writer never felt more certain than he is at this moment that pessimism and panicky action are being childishly overdone. Nothing could be surer than that most American basic commodities and most American stocks are selling at such ridiculously low levels that a recovery, even a rebound, will be witnessed. Just as it was impossible to predict last year when the inevitable crash would come, so it is impossible at this writing (the third week in December) to predict when the turn will come. But that it will come in the reasonably near future can not be doubted...."

Foreign
4-H Clubs

An editorial in The National 4-H Club Magazine for December says: "From The Georgetown, British Guiana, Chronicle, we learn that His Excellency, the Governor of the colony, visited late in the summer, the Port Mourant--Rose Hall boys and girls 4-H clubs, and at once became a patron of those organizations....This may seem a little strange to the club boys and girls in the United States where the President, governors, Members of Congress and other officials already are enthusiastically supporting club work. But the situation is different. For example, the club movement in British Guiana is supported by the collection of 12 cents dues from boys and six cents from girls, plus

part of the 10 per cent collected upon the sale of club produce. Here our business men vie for an opportunity to subscribe rich club prizes--including trips to Paris. But club work in the United States goes back to an humble beginning, even if it was supported and encouraged by the Government. So we bid our British Guiana fellow workers to be of good cheer, struggle on to 'make the best better' and win happier, more satisfactory lives through their club efforts...."

Venomous Snakes

"More than 1,000 cases of venomous snake bite were reported last vacation season. More are expected this season because of the increase in numbers that take their vacations in the outdoors and also a marked increase in the number of venomous snakes, attributed to increase in agriculture, which favors snakes. Venomous snakes of the United States are the rattlesnake, the copperhead, the cottonmouth or water moccasin, and coral snakes. These snakes and their sub-species range in practically every State; only Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont are nearly or quite free of them. Contrary to belief, venomous snakes range where population is thickest. The rattlers and copperheads are notoriously thick in five of the most densely populated States, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, according to Dr. Raymond L. Ditmars, recognized as one of the greatest authorities on this subject." (Hunter, Trader, Trapper, Feb.)

Young on Business

Signs are not lacking that an upturn in business is near, Owen D. Young said yesterday before the midwinter meeting of the New York State Bankers Association in the Federal Reserve Bank, according to the press to-day. There has been a pronounced improvement in the attitude of business men between the third week of December and the present, he said. Because of the world-wide effect of conditions in the United States the banking policy of this country must be one of cooperation with other countries, Mr. Young declared.

Department of Agriculture

Section 3

An editorial in Facts About Sugar for February says: "...The action of Secretary Hyde in reversing the position of his predecessors in this matter (ruling on corn sugar) unquestionably is an important moral victory for the corn sugar industry. We doubt, however, whether it will lead to the rapid displacement of sucrose, or cause the American people to depend upon maize as the chief source of sweetening for the prepared foods and beverages which they consume in such large quantities. In the first place, only a limited number of lines of food manufacture are affected by the recent ruling. There has existed no barrier to the use of corn sugar in the manufacture of ice cream, confectionery, and bakery products. These industries are the larger industrial users of sugar. While the quantity used by the bottling and preserving trades can not be determined exactly, it certainly is less than 10 per cent of the annual consumption of the American people. Secondly the manufacturers of sweetened foods and beverages are not going to adopt corn sugar en masse to the exclusion of the older form of sweetening....Our own belief is that corn sugar is to be regarded as a complement to cane and beet sugar, rather than as a direct competitor. In the preserving of fruits and the manufacture of jams and jellies, sucrose serves an important function that dextrose can hardly usurp. It may prove to be the case, as is claimed by some members of the corn

sugar industry, that an admixture of corn sugar with cane or beet sugar in certain sweet foods will result in a larger consumption of these foods and consequently in an increased use of both kinds of sugar."

Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Jan. 26.--Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $73\frac{3}{4}$ to $77\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.2 red winter Chicago $79\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 80 to $80\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 72 to 73¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago $78\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City $68\frac{1}{2}$ to 69¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago $62\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis $53\frac{3}{4}$ to $54\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City $53\frac{3}{4}$ to $54\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago $61\frac{1}{2}$ to $63\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 55 to $56\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis $63\frac{1}{2}$ to $64\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 56 to $57\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago $31\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis $28\frac{3}{4}$ to $28\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis $33\frac{1}{4}$ to $33\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 32 to $32\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Livestock prices: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100 to 1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.50 to \$13.50; cows, good and choice \$4.75 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$11; vealers, good and choice \$9.50 to \$12; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.85 to \$7.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8.10 to \$8.25; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$8.15 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8 to \$8.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.75-\$2.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.35 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.40-\$1.50 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.20-\$1.25 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions ranged 90¢-\$1.25 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 60¢-70¢ f.o.b. West Michigan points. New York Danish type cabbage \$15-\$21 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$11-\$13 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$2.25-\$2.75 per western lettuce crate in city markets; 85¢-90¢ f.o.b. Lower Valley points. Florida various varieties of strawberries 40¢-50¢ per quart in eastern cities. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No.1, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, brought \$4-\$4.50 per barrel in New York City; Baldwins \$4. Bushel baskets Baldwins \$1.45 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets remained unchanged at 9.47¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 16.50¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 2 points to 10.31¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange remained unchanged at 10.32¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 29¢; 91 score, $28\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; 90 score, $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to $18\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, $16\frac{3}{4}$ ¢- $17\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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Vol. XXXX, No. 23

Section 1

January 28, 1931.

RELIEF HEARINGS

The Associated Press to-day says: "The House appropriations committee continued its hearing on the Senate's proposal to give the Red Cross \$25,000,000 for food distribution....Conceding that considerable distress existed in the South and Middlewest, Surgeon General Cumming, of the United States Public Health Service, told the appropriations committee the worst results would not come from the existing acute situation, but from disease resulting from malnutrition of children....Cumming said some outside aid was needed in Southern States, and expressed fear that, by being undernourished, the future health of the people in the drought areas would be endangered by pellagra, tuberculosis and other diseases..."

POPULATION OF WASHINGTON

The Washington Post to-day says: "Washington and its surrounding territory, including a land area of 957.19 square miles, has a population of 648,604, with a density of 677.61 per square mile, 1930 Census figures show. The City of Washington, including the entire District of Columbia, with a 62-square-mile land area, has a total population of 488,869 and a population density of 7,852.72 per square mile..."

FARM CREDIT

Figures issued by Charles R. Dunn, fiscal agent for the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks created under the agricultural credit act of 1923, indicate they are operating at a smaller ratio of loss to volume than other financial institutions. With business of \$1,059,776,-000 in the seven years since they were organized, their percentage of loss was 0.28. Mr. Dunn in his review of 1930 predicts that the 1931 program of the banks should provide substantially increased business. The twelve intermediate credit banks in their seven years have lent more than \$553,500,000 to cooperative marketing associations and \$506,250,000 to discounting agencies. The banks are permanent and independent and are under supervision of the Federal Farm Loan Board. (Press, Jan. 26)

ARGENTINE FOOD PRICE REDUCTION

A Buenos Aires dispatch to-day states that the provisional government is giving much attention to lowering the cost of living in Buenos Aires and has reduced the price of bread from the equivalent of $3\frac{1}{2}$ cents a pound to 2 cents in the public markets. It has announced that a government bureau will sell 250,000 pounds of bread a day to make this reduction available to a larger number of people. The government also is studying a plan to sell all meat in Buenos Aires through a government bureau, allowing retail butchers a profit of only 1 cent a pound. There has been a general reduction of price in most other foodstuffs, especially those mostly consumed by the poorer classes.

UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF

The New York Times of January 27 states that a survey of unemployment relief efforts in thirty-five States, made public by the Family Welfare Association of America, reported that in 120 out of the 149 cities included in the survey, breadlines and soup kitchens had been abandoned for other forms of relief.

Section 2

American
Machinery

An editorial in Successful Farming for February says: "A group of German agricultural scientists and economists visited the United States to make a study of American farming. Their report to the German Agricultural Society is of particular interest. This report stated that in the matters of crop technique and the securing of large yields per acre, the German farmer excelled the American, but an outstanding difference existed in the volume of production per worker. The American farm worker produced four to five times as much as the German and received two to four times the wages. They might have reported that the standard of living of the American farm worker was likewise higher. The great difference in the volume of production per worker they attributed to the use of machinery. Thus, we have from unbiased visitors from abroad the observation that the significant feature of American agriculture is the use of machinery. If this is the case, it may not be out of place to inquire concerning the real significance of agricultural machinery to the American farmer. When studied analytically, it is revealed that machinery, when used properly, makes three distinct contributions to the farm worker. First, power from some motor is substituted for the muscular energy of the worker: second, the capacity of the individual worker is multiplied by the application of energy greatly in excess of his muscular ability; and third, the character of labor is improved...."

Food Preju-
dices

T. Swann Harding, writing on "Food Prejudices" in Medical Journal and Record for January 21, says in part: "Dr. Charles W. Townsend tells of explaining artichokes to a man and woman in California he finally recommended their toothsome-ness as deserving a trial where- upon the man drew up to say with great finality--'Oh, no! We never eat strange foods!' That is why the mussel is freely eaten in Europe and clams never; in America the clams are highly prized and the mussels are unfit for food! It is said that the clam has never been eaten in England even in most ancient times. Only with the very greatest difficulty can Englishmen be persuaded to taste clams. We think the servant girl who is content with corned beef and cabbage and who refuses to taste venison and wild duck merely ignorant. But she is not. She merely shares our tendency to have food prejudices. In England and America flatfish--sole, plaice or flounder--is esteemed; but in Labrador and Newfoundland it is unfit for food. Whereas the flounder is sold at a high price in Boston it is merely fertilizer in Gaspesia, where people refuse to taste it. At Grand Manan, New Brunswick, haddock and hake were formerly thrown away and nearly everywhere on our coast dogfish are discarded. But the dogfish is good eating none the less. Yet where it is eaten it is disguised under the names 'gray fish' and 'rock salmon' to calm prejudices against it...."

Fur Market

An editorial in Hunter Trader Trapper for February says: "Raw furs have not made much change one way or another in the past month. A slight advance has taken place in badger, grey fox, muskrat, choice wolf and fine dark mink. Lynx cat, opossum, raccoon and skunk are lower. Fine heavy coon from northern sections and best square handled full furred coon and of good color are in demand. White and brown weasel, civet cat, ring tail and otter, no change--good seasonable, well furred pelts are best sellers. Prices are materially lower than

last year. Not only the fur trade, but all other lines of business the world over are so unsatisfactory that no kind of merchandise whatever can now be bought or sold except at far lower prices than have prevailed for some years past. There is sure to be a recovery in some degree soon or or later, but how long it will take for such improvement to develop is the biggest riddle now facing the business world. It is guess work and your guess is as good as ours. As one dealer tell us: 'Of the various American furs, there is no especial demand for any article, but if prices continue on a moderate basis, we expect to see the demand gradually strengthen.'

Palestine
Orange
Industry

S. Tolkowsky, writing on the Jaffa orange industry in The Near East and India for December 25, says: "The large increase in the acreage planted in recent years in Palestine with oranges and grapefruit trees has caused people, not very well acquainted with the present state of the various European markets for citrus fruits and their probable development, to ask themselves whether the citrus industry in Palestine is not being overdone, and whether in the further extension of the orange and grapefruit plantations in that country there is not a danger that growers may find it increasingly difficult to dispose of the large crops of the future at remunerative prices. The question is one of immediate and practical importance not only because of the large investments already made in this industry, but also because on the cultivation of oranges and grapefruit are based several large schemes for the settlement of Jews in Palestine. It is a fact, as obvious as it is well known, that whatever quantity of citrus fruits Palestine will produce, its disposal in the United Kingdom and on the European continent will in no way be adversely affected by the increasing crops of citrus fruits which will be sent to the same markets by the citrus-growing regions of South Africa, South America, and Australia. These countries are all situated in the Southern Hemisphere, and their citrus crops appear in Europe during the summer after the close of the Jaffa orange season, and have ceased to appear there by the time the following Jaffa orange season starts. The fact, therefore, that countries situated in the Southern Hemisphere are increasing their citrus-producing areas does not constitute a factor detrimental to the disposal of large crops of Jaffa oranges. On the contrary, the marketing in the United Kingdom and Europe of increasing quantities of citrus fruits from the Southern Hemisphere is bound to increase the popularity of oranges and grapefruit, and the Jaffa orange is bound to benefit by this resultant increased demand...."

Vitamins in
Cod-Liver
Oil

The Lancet (London) for January 10 says: "The latest publication of the Empire Marketing Board is a report in reply to a recommendation from the Imperial Economic Committee (contained in a report dealing with our fish supply) that the nature of the variations in the vitamin content of cod-liver oils produced by fish from various sources should be the subject of inquiry....The general findings of the investigators support the belief that the vitamin value of the oil yielded by the cod caught in Newfoundland waters is the highest, next in order of merit coming the oils of Icelandic and Scottish origin, those from Norway being the least potent. The colorimetric experiments, however, which support this view are not accepted everywhere...."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Jan. 27.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.75 to \$13.50; cows, good and choice \$4.75 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$11; vealers, good and choice \$10 to \$12.50; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.90 to \$7.50; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8.10 to \$8.25; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.50 to \$8.15 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8.75 to \$9.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8. (Note: The quotation on slaughter sheep and lambs; lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) for January 26, 1931, should have read 8.75 to 9.50 instead of 8 to 8.75.)

Grain prices: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $73\frac{3}{4}$ to $76\frac{3}{4}\phi$; No.2 hard winter Chicago $78\frac{3}{4}$ to 79ϕ ; Kansas City $68\frac{1}{2}$ to 69ϕ ; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 63 to $63\frac{1}{4}\phi$; Minneapolis $54\frac{1}{2}$ to $55\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Kansas City 54 to 55ϕ ; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 63 to $65\frac{1}{4}\phi$; Minneapolis $55\frac{1}{2}$ to $57\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Kansas City 57 to $58\frac{1}{2}\phi$; No.3 white oats Chicago $32\frac{1}{4}\phi$; Minneapolis $28\frac{3}{4}$ to $29\frac{1}{4}\phi$; Kansas City 32ϕ .

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes \$1.90-\$2.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.30-\$1.35 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.40-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.20-\$1.25 f.o.b. Waupaca. Florida strawberries, various varieties in pony refrigerators, 40¢-50¢ per quart in the East; mostly $16\frac{3}{4}\phi$ - $17\frac{3}{4}\phi$ f.o.b. pint basis Plant City, Florida. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions 90¢-\$1.25 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 70¢-77¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Delaware and Maryland Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.50-\$2 per bushel hamper in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.25-\$1.40 in the Middle West. New York Danish type cabbage \$15-\$21 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$2-\$2.50 per western lettuce crate; mostly \$1 f.o.b. Lower Valley points. Florida Pointed type \$1-\$1.50 per $1\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in city markets. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$3.50-\$4.25 per barrel in New York City; bushel baskets \$1.25-\$1.30 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 10 points to 9.57¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 16.38¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 10 points to 10.41¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 8 points to 10.40¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 29¢; 91 score, $28\frac{3}{4}\phi$; 90 score, $28\frac{1}{2}\phi$.

Wholesale prices of fresh No.1 American cheese at New York were: Flats, $17\frac{1}{2}$ to $18\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Single Daisies, $16\frac{3}{4}$ to $17\frac{1}{4}\phi$; Young Americas $17\frac{1}{2}$ to 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXX, No. 24

Section 1

January 29, 1931.

SECRETARIES HYDE AND WILBUR DISCUSS ROADS Secretaries Hyde and Wilbur conferred yesterday on means of speeding construction of public roads in national parks to increase employment, according to the press to-day. The report says: "For road building in national forests, Congress included \$1,500,000 in the recent emergency appropriation measure. In addition, \$7,500,000 would be authorized for the purpose under the Leavitt bill, now before President Hoover after passage by both the House and the Senate. Heretofore the annual appropriation has amounted to \$5,000,000."

FOOD PRICE INQUIRY The Senate yesterday broadened the scope of its food price inquiry to include meat as well as bread and sugar. It also received a proposal from Senator Steiwer of Oregon for appointment of a separate commission to investigate causes and remedies of fluctuations of all commodity and security values. The resolution of Senator Carey of Wyoming, directing inquiry into the meat and meat products prices, was approved without opposition and was turned over to the Capper committee. Senator Capper, chairman of the investigating committee, announced a meeting for to-day to employ special investigators. He said the inquiry into bread and sugar prices would proceed ahead of that into meat. (Press, Jan. 29.)

SOLDIER BONUS BILLS Secretary Mellon told the Senate finance committee yesterday proposals for cashing the bonus certificates of World War veterans are "without economic merit" and that instead of improving conditions would "deepen" the world depression, according to the press to-day. The report says: "Mr. Mellon was questioned closely as he predicted a Treasury deficit of \$375,000,000 and warned the cash conversion plan would not only have 'serious consequences' on public credit, but also would 'greatly disturb world equilibrium.'..."

INCOME TAX RECEIPTS Income taxes collected during the calendar year of 1930 showed a drop of \$169,837,364 as compared with 1929, statistics issued yesterday by the Bureau of Internal Revenue showed. The total collected was \$2,332,968,393, compared with \$2,502,805,757 for the year before. (Press, Jan. 29.)

FLU WARNING The Associated Press to-day says: "A rapid spread of influenza was reported by the Public Health Service yesterday, with a total of 7,275 cases now as compared with 3,867 a week ago. The public Health Service estimates the disease is about five times as prevalent as shown in the report, since several States do not require influenza reports and others have only the statistics furnished by physicians."

Section 2

Automobile
Ownership

There is one automobile for each 4.23 persons in the United States. This computation of the American Motorists Association is based on total motor vehicle registrations in the United States compared with the revised 1930 census figures, which give the total population of the United States as 120,623,993, exclusive of Porto Rico, Hawaii and other possessions. The per capita motor car ownership in 1929, based on 1920 census figures, was 5.3 persons per car. The District of Columbia has one of the highest per capita ratios, that of 2.76. It is surpassed only by California, with 2.64, and Nevada, with 2.49. (Press, Jan. 25.)

Cotton
Production

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for January 24 says: "The cost of growing cotton, according to producers and other authorities, has a range of from 14 to 25 cents per pound. To-day, farmers are receiving around 8 cents per pound. At the same time, they are making their plans for producing another crop. It occurs to Farm and Ranch that this is one time when it would be good business to buy cotton instead of going to the expense of raising it....We recently learned of a Texas cotton grower who produces 500 bales in normal years. He has purchased 500 bales of futures at less than 10 cents per pound. He will not plant a single acre to cotton in 1931. He will have as much cotton as he ordinarily produces at less than cost of production, and will have his land to use in the production of other crops."

Millers
Seek Farm
Board
Grain

A Chicago dispatch to the press states that plans were in the making last week for the Government-sponsored Grain Stabilization Corporation to lend American millers several million bushels of wheat. The report says: "The scheme is said to be an effort to enable Millers' National Federation members to compete in export trade with Canada and other countries where wheat prices are materially lower than in the United States. According to George Milnor, president of the farmers' organization, and a bulletin issued by the millers, the latter would be permitted to 'borrow' wheat from the corporation, to be replaced not later than September 15. Millers who have export orders would be able to enter individual negotiations with the Stabilization Corporation, whereby the latter will lend old wheat on the condition that the miller replace it with future wheat of July or September option...."

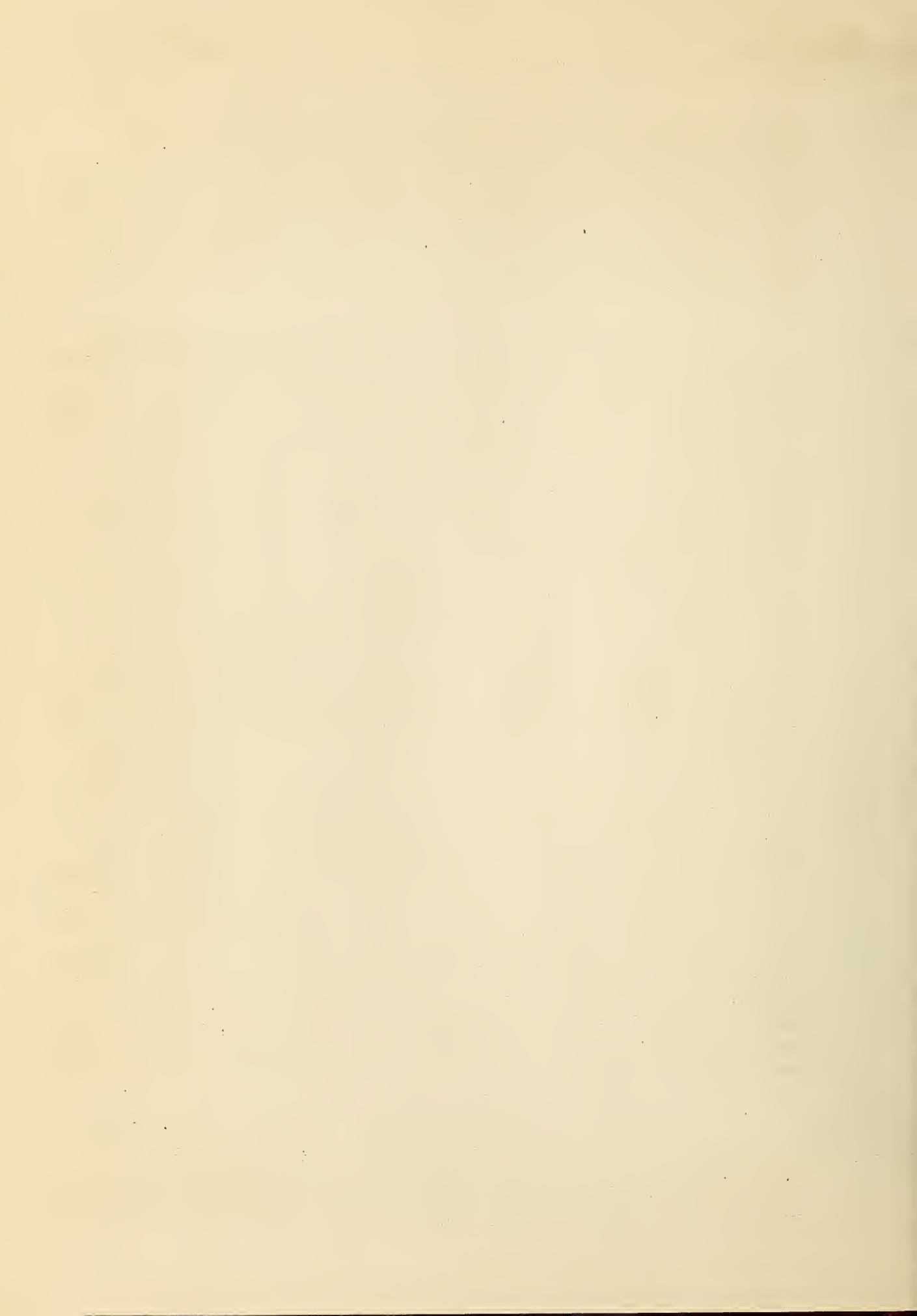
New York
Land Survey
Urged

An Albany dispatch January 27 says: "As a step toward the formulation of a definite land policy for the State, Governor Roosevelt in a special message sent to the Legislature January 26, urged that it provide for a state-wide soil and land survey. The Governor estimated ten years would be required for the survey and the total cost at \$750,000. Of this amount \$96,000, under provision made by the Governor in his budget, would become available this year for land survey and classification work by the College of Agriculture at Cornell and the Syracuse University School of Forestry. In his message the Governor emphasized that of the 30,000,000 acres constituting the area of the State, some 27,000,000 are rural, and 5,000,000 of those are unsuitable for cultivation. This leaves some 22,000,000 acres that have been or are farm land, but 4,000,000 have been abandoned. The survey proposed by the Governor would cover those 22,000,000 acres with a view to determining what proportions can profitably be devoted to farming and reforestation...."

Potato Futures "Interest in potato futures trading as shown by sales on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange during the first week of such transactions exceeded expectations, President S. H. Field has announced. 'Potato futures business has outdone the trading in egg futures and has been nearly as active as butter trading,' Mr. Field said. 'There were 336 cars of potatoes sold against 261 cars of eggs and 392 cars of butter. Plans for trading in a long term contract, such as October, November or December delivery of potatoes, will be developed soon, as well as futures in varieties other than Idaho russets.'" (Commerce and Finance, Jan. 28.)

Research The Medical Officer for January 10 says: "...Lord Moynihan's speech at the opening of the Banting Institute at Toronto merely emphasized, what everybody must admit--that clinicians of ability, in the course of their clinical labors, do unravel much of the mystery of human physiology, and that their experience teaches them that what may be absolutely true for animals submitted to experiment may not stand true for man in his environment, and can not be accepted as being so true until it is tested by human experiment or experience; and clinicians alone are capable of testing it. Lord Moynihan neither belittled the fruits of the laboratory nor exalted those which have been gained by clinical experience, but he did not insist that in the study of man, the man himself can not be ignored. The laboratory has given us two cures, the only cures of which we are certain--the antitoxins of diphtheria and of tetanus. So far as the laboratories are concerned one should be equal in value to the other. But when these cures were tried out on man it was found that the one could, and has, cured millions, whereas the other, highly valuable as a preventive, is practically valueless as a cure. The difference is due to the difference in the reactions of the human host to the two parasites, *C. diphtheriae* and *B. tetani*. The laboratories could not know of this difference. The clinicians discovered that man must have vitamin C. Rats can get along without it, but they must have vitamin A. We are not certain that man needs vitamin A, and shall not be certain until the clinicians prove it one way or the other. The fact that rats die if deprived of vitamin A is a valuable fact, proved up to the hilt by experiment; but it does not follow that it is of more than theoretical interest to man. It is quite true that clinical research often gets sadly torn to pieces when submitted to critical scrutiny, whereas laboratory research, if good, generally comes through with nothing more than a little criticism, but this is due to the greater difficulties of the former, not to the lower accuracy or unscientific methods of the clinicians. The fact is we are hearing a great deal too much about method and technique. The only method of science is logical deduction from experiences, and the current idea that truth can only be discovered by one formula is nonsense. It is admitted that in the end all proof must be mathematical, but anything can go into the mathematical mill which is capable of definition."

Sugar Agreement An editorial in Facts About Sugar for February says: "January 8, 1931, is likely to remain an important date in the history of the sugar industry. On that day a final agreement was reached among the representatives of the sugar industry in seven countries for the regulation of exports during the next five years. As these seven countries



comprise all the more important exporters of sugar save those whose shipments go to markets in which they enjoy a special protection or preference, the undertaking is in effect a world agreement...As readers of Facts About Sugar are aware from previous discussion of this project in its successive stages, the purpose of the agreement is to relieve the world sugar market from the pressure of existing surplus stocks and to provide for their gradual absorption over a five-year period. It does not concern itself with prices and leaves to the producers of each country full freedom to make any needed adjustment of production within their own territories."

A second statement in the same issue says: "Now that the international agreement, to which the name of Chadbourne has been firmly affixed, has been ratified by the producers in the more important sugar exporting countries, its final adoption is accepted as certain. The question that now interests members of the sugar trade is, 'What does the convention mean for the sugar industry?' Contrary to the opinion created by some of the newspaper reports and comments, It does not mean a rapid increase in market prices. Such a result would defeat the primary purpose of the agreement. Nor does it solve at once all the problems confronting sugar producers in different parts of the world. Fundamentally the undertaking adopted at Berlin early in January, after months of careful planning and negotiation, is a stabilization measure. It seeks to restore a normal relation between supply and demand by segregating the surplus stocks that have been forcing the price level to ruinously low levels. It attempts to accomplish this by providing for the gradual absorption of these excess supplies over a period of five years. If the agreement is carried out in good faith by those who have joined in establishing it, the effect should be a gradual restoration of prices to a level permitting profitable operation. Another important consequence will be that sugar producers, for the first time in recent years, will know the conditions under which they must operate. ..."

Wool Substitutes

B. W. Allred, Logan, Utah, writing on "The Truth About Substitutes for Wool" in The National Wool Grower for January, says: "The current question of the probable commercial ascendancy of artificial fibers over wool is one of pronounced forensic dimensions. The actual extent of the infringement of cellulose fibers in wool economics is very speculative. From a casual glance at the situation we have the tendency to give too much credence to the theory that synthetic fibers are affecting the cotton market more than the wool market. By delving deeper into the mechanics of the situation we find that cotton manufacturers have capitalized on the spectacular dyeing versatility of artificial fibers by utilizing them to lend more pleasing and varied color effects in cotton fabrics and in this manner compete more advantageously with wool manufacturers for the consumer's dollar. To what extent this inroad has progressed is debatable but we do know that the per capita consumption of wool is decreasing steadily year after year at a faster rate than is the decrease in the consumption of textiles as a whole...The underlying causes are multifarious and of course the use of artificial fabrics and overproduction are the cardinal reasons for low wool prices. Despite the low cost of the production of synthetic fibers and the varied use to which they can be applied, none of them has the outstanding qualities desired in yarn that sheep's wool has and many sheepmen are entirely oblivious to the true merits of their product ..."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Jan. 28.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.50 to \$13.25; cows, good and choice \$4.75 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$10.75; vealers, good and choice \$9.50 to \$12; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.90 to \$7.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8 to \$8.10; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$8 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8.75 to \$9.50; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 73 $\frac{5}{8}$ to 77 $\frac{5}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 80 to 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 69¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 61 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 62 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 52 to 55¢; Kansas City 52 to 54¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 63 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 53 to 55¢; St. Louis 62 to 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 55 to 57¢; No.3 white oats Minneapolis 28 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 28 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 33 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 32¢.

Sacked Green Mountain potatoes from Maine brought \$1.75-\$2.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.35 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.40-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.20-\$1.25 f.o.b., Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions ranged 90¢-\$1.25 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 60¢-65¢ f.o.b. West Michigan points. Florida various varieties of strawberries closed at 35¢-60¢ per quart in city markets; 18¢-25¢ for pints and mostly 17¢-18¢ f.o.b. Plant City. New York Danish type cabbage \$15-\$21 bulk per ton in terminal markets; mostly \$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.85-\$2.25 per western lettuce crate in city markets. Florida Pointed type \$1-\$1.40 per 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in a few cities. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, brought \$1.25-\$1.50; McIntosh \$1.75-\$2 and Baldwins \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins \$1.45-\$1.50 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 11 points to 9.46¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 16¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 24 points to 10.17¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 10 points to 10.30¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 29¢; 91 score, 28 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; 90 score, 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXX, No. 25

Section 1

January 30, 1931.

RELIEF PROPOSALS

In the Senate yesterday an amendment was adopted to the Army supply bill appropriating \$5,000,000 of the \$45,000,000 already appropriated to the Secretary of Agriculture for seed loans, so that it would be available "for loans to livestock producers." (Press, Jan. 30.)

RED CROSS FUNDS

The press today reports that the House appropriations committee yesterday voted, 18 to 11, to reject the Senate amendment to the Interior supply bill appropriating \$25,000,000 to the Red Cross for drought and unemployment relief. The committee's action followed the statement made by John Barton Payne, chairman of the Red Cross, that that organization would refuse to administer the fund if it was authorized by Congress.

FARM BOARD WHEAT

The Senate yesterday attached a provision to the War Department appropriation bill making immediately available for relief purposes 20,000,000 bushels of Farm Board wheat.

FOOD PRICE INQUIRY

The Senate investigation of discrepancies between retail food prices and prices paid producers got under way yesterday when the investigating committee selected C. V. Maudlin, managing director of the Bureau of Applied Economics, to aid in the inquiry. The inquiry will cover prices of wheat, flour and bread, milk and dairy products, meats and sugar. (Press, Jan. 30.)

ARKANSAS HOUSE VOTES RELIEF

A Little Rock dispatch to-day states that the Arkansas House of Representatives yesterday passed the Fleming bill providing for a \$15,000,000 State bond issue for relief of drought sufferers. The proceeds of the issue would be loaned to farmers to make the 1931 crop and for purchase of food for their families.

PARA REMOVES RUBBER TAX

A Sao Paulo dispatch to-day states that the Provisional Governor of the State of Para issued a decree yesterday removing the exportation tax on crude and manufactured rubber. The report says: "The action is lauded by the Para press as a progressive step, encouraging the development of new plantations and aiding them to compete with Oriental production. The removal of the exportation tax will be a great boon to Ford interests, which are the chief Para growers..."

EGYPTIAN COTTON

A Cairo dispatch to-day states that the International Cotton Committee, which was formed by the International Cotton Congress held there several years ago, is now meeting in Cairo. Yesterday it adopted a resolution to propose to the Egyptian Government that the latter dispose of all the cotton in now holds, in order that the cotton market may regain its stability.

Section 2

American
Tobacco

Smokers of the world increased their consumption of American tobacco during 1930, while international usage of practically every other product of this country's industry and agriculture diminished, according to a press statement January 27. The Department of Commerce announces leaf tobacco exports for 1930 of 579,704,000 pounds, against 565,901,000 pounds in 1929. Due to the general price fall in commodities, however, the 1930 exports were valued at \$145,609,000, against \$146,083,000 the previous year. One of the striking factors of the trade, the report commented, was "an almost complete disintegration of the Chinese market for American cigarettes."

Cooperative
Marketing

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for January 24 says: "Sometimes we talk as if the problems of comparative marketing were concerned entirely with the mechanics of selling, as if the job were done when we had located a set of marketing experts to handle the product at least as cleverly as private dealers handle it. This is a current delusion that ought to be smashed before it gets us into trouble. Dr. A. G. Black, head of the department of agricultural economics at Iowa State College, took a husky swing at it recently at the meeting of the Iowa Cooperative Shippers. He said: 'In discussing possible improvements in merchandising, attention has been directed wholly to problems encountered after the cooperative association has secured possession of the livestock. Relations existing between the individual producer and the cooperative organization have been, thus far, ignored. These relationships are important, indeed they are essential to successful cooperative marketing. Too often so-called cooperative marketing enterprises have seemed to ignore the obvious fact that hogs are produced in the country by individual farmers....A successful cooperative marketing association must have something to sell, and to secure the product it must make a conscious effort to secure and maintain the loyal support of the man producing it. Support can not be gained merely by asking for it. Such an approach is hardly different from the approach made by any business enterprise seeking increased patronage. The ties of the individual patron to a business firm with whom he deals are not always close at the beginning of their relationship....'"

County Con-
solidation

An editorial in Farm and Ranch for January 24 says: "A short time ago Farm and Ranch suggested that there were too many county governments in Texas and other Southwestern States; that consolidations were now in order as a matter of economy. Since writing the editorial, we have learned that the idea advanced was not new, for over in east Tennessee the experiment has been tried with satisfactory results. More than ten years ago, when conditions were not as ripe as they are now for such a move, there were several consolidations in the Tennessee mountain district, the most notable of which was the consolidation of James and Hamilton Counties, the City of Chattanooga being in the latter. At the time of the consolidation, the tax rate in James County was \$2.60 per \$100. To-day it is \$1.30. Although valuations have advanced considerably, the records show that the actual money paid in taxes on property is between 20 and 30 per cent less than formerly. In addition, paved highways have been constructed; new school buildings erected; and many other improvements made and paid for. The consolidation was

brought about by a vote of the people. There are any number of cases in Texas where it would be good business for counties to consolidate. There are some cases where at least four counties should go together into one county organization, disposing of three governments. Good roads and improved transportation facilities have shortened distance, as measured in time, and it is no longer necessary to have county seats every twenty or thirty miles."

Farm Board
Wheat

An editorial in The Baltimore Sun for January 28 says: "At the request of a group of flour millers in the Southwest the Federal Farm Board has agreed to what, for all practical purposes, amounts to selling wheat for export in the form of flour at prices much less than the board will dispose of its wheat holdings to be converted into flour for American consumers. The transaction involved is to be carried out in terms of lending Farm Board wheat to the millers, to be repaid later this year. But the rhetoric and legal forms involved do not obscure the fact that the board is discriminating in favor of foreign bread consumers in the disposition of part of its wheat holdings. At present the cash price of wheat in Chicago is around 80 cents per bushel. This is far above the world price, thanks primarily to the Farm Board's operations in buying enormous quantities of wheat to sequester behind our tariff wall of 42 cents per bushel of wheat. The discrepancy between the domestic and world prices of wheat has placed millers in the Southwest at a great disadvantage in producing flour for export. Consequently they have persuaded the Farm Board to lend them wheat to be used to manufacture export flour (for which they would have to pay about 80 cents per bushel on the market now) under an agreement which permits them to return the wheat prior to September 15 this year. Since the price for the July wheat future is about 65 cents a bushel, this enables them to borrow wheat selling at 80 cents a bushel now and repay with wheat they can now arrange to buy in July for about 65 cents per bushel. From this arrangement, it is pointed out, the Farm Board's Grain Stabilization Corporation gains something, because it is saved the charges of carrying the wheat it lends to the millers between now and September 1. And the millers get their wheat for export as flour at about 15 cents a bushel cheaper than they could be buying it on the open market at this time...."

Grapefruit
in Florida

The Miami Herald for January 27 says: "Grapefruit growers of America warned against surplus production by C. C. Teague, fruit member of the Farm Board. Declares disaster threatens in next few years due to increased acreage in groves. Advises against further planting, at least until consumption catches up with output. Asserts Florida planted 80,000 acres in 1929. Estimates 1930-31 crop as 15,000,000 boxes, or 2,500,000 more boxes than a year ago. Well, that does not seem to be an excessive supply for 120,000,000 persons in the United States alone and hundreds of millions elsewhere. Mr. Teague would curtail production or find new markets. By all means do the latter. Advertise. Make America grapefruit conscious. Cooperate. Organize better distribution and sales. And there will not be enough citrus to meet the demand."



Highway Desecration near Washington

An editorial in The Milwaukee Journal for January 26 says: "The American Nature Association has produced a booklet entitled 'Highway Entrances to Washington--the Federal City.' It should be kept out of the hands of prospective visitors from fair and distant lands and away from the Man from Mars. For such as these, turning the pages, could but be overcome by horrified amazement. They could but ask themselves: 'Of what stuff are these Americans made? Of what concepts are their cities?' Glancing through that booklet they would see the war memorial at Hyattsville surrounded by 18 billboards; the Baltimore pike a ghastly tangle of signs and placards; the Potomac highway a vista of hot dog stands; and 'historic Alexandria,' on the threshold of Mount Vernon itself, cluttered with such a display of boards and signs as to mock the name and memory of Washington himself....Yet Americans accept the billboard-be-spattered landscapes around Washington with bland content. They permit commercialism to invade to the very shadows of a national shrine, they travel calmly over roadways which have been so despoiled that, in many another land, the outrage would arouse a spirit of assault. It is an appalling picture that the American Nature Association shows us--the billboard industry run rampant on the highways that enter Washington. All that constructively can be said is that Americans by the millions ought to receive and read 'Highway Entrances to Washington'; and, having seen and read, demand not only such national action as is possible, but such action in their every home State--the enactment and enforcement of rural zoning laws, especially--that this disgraceful condition may not be repeated elsewhere in the land as it has been inflicted upon the Nation's Capital City."

Kenya Products

The African World for January 3 says: "Pastoral production and dairying are not yet of great importance, but promise to become so, especially in Kenya. Mineral production is insignificant. Although Kenya is primarily an agricultural country, secondary production is beginning to develop in the form of sugar and flour mills, soap, butter and milk factories and the production of industrial alcohol. There are eight flour mills, five sugar factories, one soap factory, and three creameries. In 1928-29 the output of flour was 93,000 bags (of 200 lbs. each) and the output of sugar 125,570 cwt."

Soy Beans in Missouri

"Practically unknown in Missouri ten years ago, the soy-bean crop in the State has increased from an acreage of less than 500 in 1920 to nearly 500,000 in 1930. Value of the crop last year was estimated at \$12,000,000. Missouri farmers are using the beans mostly for cattle feed, according to Professor William C. Etheridge, chairman of the University of Missouri department of field crops. The beans have proved valuable as a substitute for other crops in rotation agriculture." (Press, Jan. 29.)

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Jan. 29.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.50 to \$13.25; cows, good and choice \$4.75 to \$6.75; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$10.75; vealers, good and choice \$9.50 to \$11.50; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$9; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$7.25; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$8; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$8 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8.75 to \$9.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.40.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $73\frac{3}{4}$ to $77\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 80 to $80\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 74¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago $78\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City $68\frac{1}{2}$ to 69¢; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis 53 to 54¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 61 to 63¢; Minneapolis $51\frac{1}{2}$ to 53¢; St. Louis 62 to $62\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City $55\frac{1}{2}$ to $57\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago $31\frac{3}{4}$ to 32¢; Minneapolis $28\frac{3}{4}$ to $29\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis $33\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City $31\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.70-\$2.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.20-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.15-\$1.20 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Danish type cabbage \$15-\$20 bulk per ton in terminal markets; mostly \$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$2-\$2.50 per western lettuce crate in city markets. Florida Pointed type \$1-\$1.40 per $1\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in the East. New York and Midwestern yellow varieties of onions brought 85¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in city markets; 62¢-80¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Florida various varieties of strawberries 40¢-50¢ per quart in consuming centers; $16\frac{3}{4}$ ¢- $17\frac{3}{4}$ ¢ per pint f.o.b. Plant City. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$1.25-\$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$; McIntosh \$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.50 and Baldwins \$1.25-\$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$ per bushel basket in New York City; Rhode Island Greenings in barrels \$3.75-\$4 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets remained unchanged at 9.46¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.62¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange remained the same at 10.29¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 2 points to 10.32¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 29¢; 91 score, $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 28¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $17\frac{1}{2}$ to $18\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, $16\frac{3}{4}$ to $17\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, $17\frac{1}{2}$ to 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXX, No. 26

Section 1

January 31, 1931.

HOUSE REJECTS RELIEF FUND

The House yesterday rejected the \$25,000,000 relief fund for the Red Cross voted by the Senate, according to the press to-day.

OTHER LEGIS- LATION

The Associated Press to-day reports: "With a sudden burst of speed, the Senate yesterday passed two appropriation bills and again caught up with its legislative program. The two were the \$446,000,000 War Department and the \$138,000,000 State, Justice, Commerce and Labor Department bills. The Senate has now passed seven of the eleven key measures and the House eight, but not one has been finally approved. All of those passed are still in conference, several loaded down with relief amendments about which there is controversy. The War Department bill yesterday carried another such relief measure to conference. It provides for distribution of 20,000,000 bushels of wheat, now held by the Farm Board, for relief purposes...."

PERSHING URGES RELIEF

Asserting that American "ideals of self-help are at stake" in the drought relief emergency, and that Americans can not fail to rise to the situation "if we would preserve our ideals of American responsibility for its own citizenship," General John J. Pershing last night made a nation-wide radio appeal over the Columbia Broadcasting chain for immediate contributions to the \$10,000,000 relief fund of the American Red Cross. The emergency, he declared, is one of major proportions. (Press, Jan. 31.)

ARKANSAS SITUATION

A Forest City, Ark., dispatch to-day says: "Hope that the work of relief in eastern Arkansas, particularly in the counties which have been hardest hit by the drought, could be given up by March 1 has been abandoned by those administering relief for persons and animals. This dead territory, stripped of every bit of herbage, brown and sun-baked and barren, will not be able to support those living on it until sometime in April. In the meantime, with or without the seed loan, they starve unless the Red Cross or some other agency feeds them. There are many reasons for this situation. A more completely bankrupt territory could not be imagined. Horses and mules, farm implements and lands, are mortgaged to the hilt. Small farmers owe more than they can pay, even if they get a crop this year. The banks which speculated on cotton are closed. Only the more conservative banking institutions are left. Men who believed in the cotton country, who see it as one of the most prolific agricultural regions in the world, feel that it can be saved by turning it from a one-crop to a diversified farming country...."

NEW YORK WATER SHORTAGE

The New York Times to-day states that New York City faces the most dangerous shortage in its water supply that has occurred in the last thirty-six years, with only enough water to last 130 days unless the reservoirs are replenished by rain or snowfall.

Section 2

Agricultural Changes An editorial in Commercial West for January 24 says: "Agriculture, like industry, is not only changing its habits but its habitat and both are being made the subject of study by the agricultural department of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. Cotton, wheat and corn production are undergoing far-reaching changes, the extent of which has not yet been adequately measured. Just as the textile industry, once centered along the New England streams, has been migrating to the South so cotton and wheat production are moving westward. The corn belt is sticking pretty well to its own environment but it is showing internal signs of restiveness. Cotton is perceptibly moving to the West from the older States of the South, which once constituted the dominion of king cotton. Wheat, too, is seeking the wide open spaces. In both cases the migration is due to mechanization. More room is needed for the large-scale farming in which the tractor and the combine play so important a part. Corn growing is likewise taking on the characteristics of mass production with the aid of the tractor, the large cultivator and the corn picker. Larger farms, with 300 acre blocks of corn, are beginning to appear. With the development of the machine regional competition in agriculture is becoming more acute."

Cornstalk Material Science News Letter article for January 31 says: "So much public interest has been aroused in the substance, maizolith, developed by C. E. Hartford, jr., at the United States Bureau of Standards, that the bureau has had to take up the work again to meet the demand for samples. The story of maizolith concerns a senior student at the Iowa State College and his laboratory thesis. Young Mr. Hartford, who was working for a degree at Iowa State, discovered that if cornstalk pulp is put through certain mechanical operations and then combined with water, it will form a tough jelly. When this jelly dries it is tough and horny and much like hard rubber. The Bureau of Standards asked Mr. Hartford to come on the Government payroll and work on his cornstalk rubber. Mr. Hartford came to Washington, completed his work, wrote a paper on it, and resigned. The bureau considered the matter closed and the work finished, but suddenly there developed such a continuous public demand for samples of maizolith, that a man had to be put back on the cornstalk rubber detail."

Farm Profits and Land Values An editorial in The Farmer and Farm, Stock and Home for January 24 says: "In commenting upon the agricultural situation a certain business man recently asked our opinion as to 'when farming would once again become as profitable as it was in the days before the deflation.' This question reflects a rather common opinion among those unfamiliar with the farm world that farming has changed from a highly profitable business to a business of low profits or actual loss as a result of the general conditions that have prevailed during the last ten years when deflation for agriculture was prescribed as a cure for the general inflation following the war. This query raises a point that has been generally overlooked in the consideration of the existing problem. The point is that farming as a productive business has never paid a large return on the investment except at certain intervals during the war-time period. Generally speaking, actual farm operations have

always paid a low return on the investment. The West became rich and prosperous not on the profits in farming but on these profits plus a constant increase in land values. Turning the cheap lands of the West into valuable farms created wealth. The unearned increment, a term used to signify this increase in values, has been an important factor in the accumulated wealth of the West. When land values in the West were destroyed almost over night by the enforced liquidation of farm crops and by the foreclosures of mortgages that followed ten years ago, western farmers were forced to depend upon the actual profits from farm operation. This holds true to-day, which explains why so many farmers are finding it difficult to make a showing in a business which has never paid a high return on the investment. In such a business only the most efficient can survive, which explains the constant exodus from farms. More and more we are inclined to believe that the stabilization of land values is a first step in insuring the future prosperity of agriculture. Incidentally, this destruction of the West's most important collateral--land values--may explain some of the problems of the business world. Apparently, time alone, together with a restored confidence in the future of agriculture, can bring an improvement in the present condition where farm land is worth only what it will bring on the bargain counter.

New York

Land Survey

An editorial in The Wall St. Journal for January 28 says: "Governor Roosevelt's recommendation to the legislature that the State make a scientific survey of its land and soil resources will doubtless be criticized on the ground that such an inquiry by a single small division of the United States can only be an academic performance. It has already been condemned by individual legislators as a political bid for farmer support. Nevertheless, the Governor's idea is sound. It points in the direction of the only 'farm relief' which legislation can ever offer. Most of what ails farming as an industry could probably be traced to the total absence for more than a hundred years of any reasoned land policy in the United States. Such policy as the country has had, aside from wise but probably inadequate aid to agricultural colleges, has considered mainly in pressure to bring more and more land under the plow, with disastrously little attention to its suitability for cultivation, selection of crops according to soil qualities or the capacity of available markets. It has seldom occurred to anyone to doubt that production in ever increasing volume and at whatever cost was a good in itself. Quantity was the simple answer to every question. The time has long since come to search for the foundation of order in that chaos. Preliminary studies have already shown that no small part of the farm areas in this State are 'sub-marginal,' bound to be losing propositions to the farmers who till them. Other areas of definite promise are not used at all or used for the wrong purposes. What exists in New York exists, in greater or less degree, in almost every State... It is a national problem in the sense that the handicaps referred to are nation-wide, less than the most profitable use of its soil resources and it is refreshing to hear a governor call upon the citizens of his State to help themselves instead of appealing to Washington. If individual States begin the good work it will expand into a national undertaking when the time comes for that to happen...."

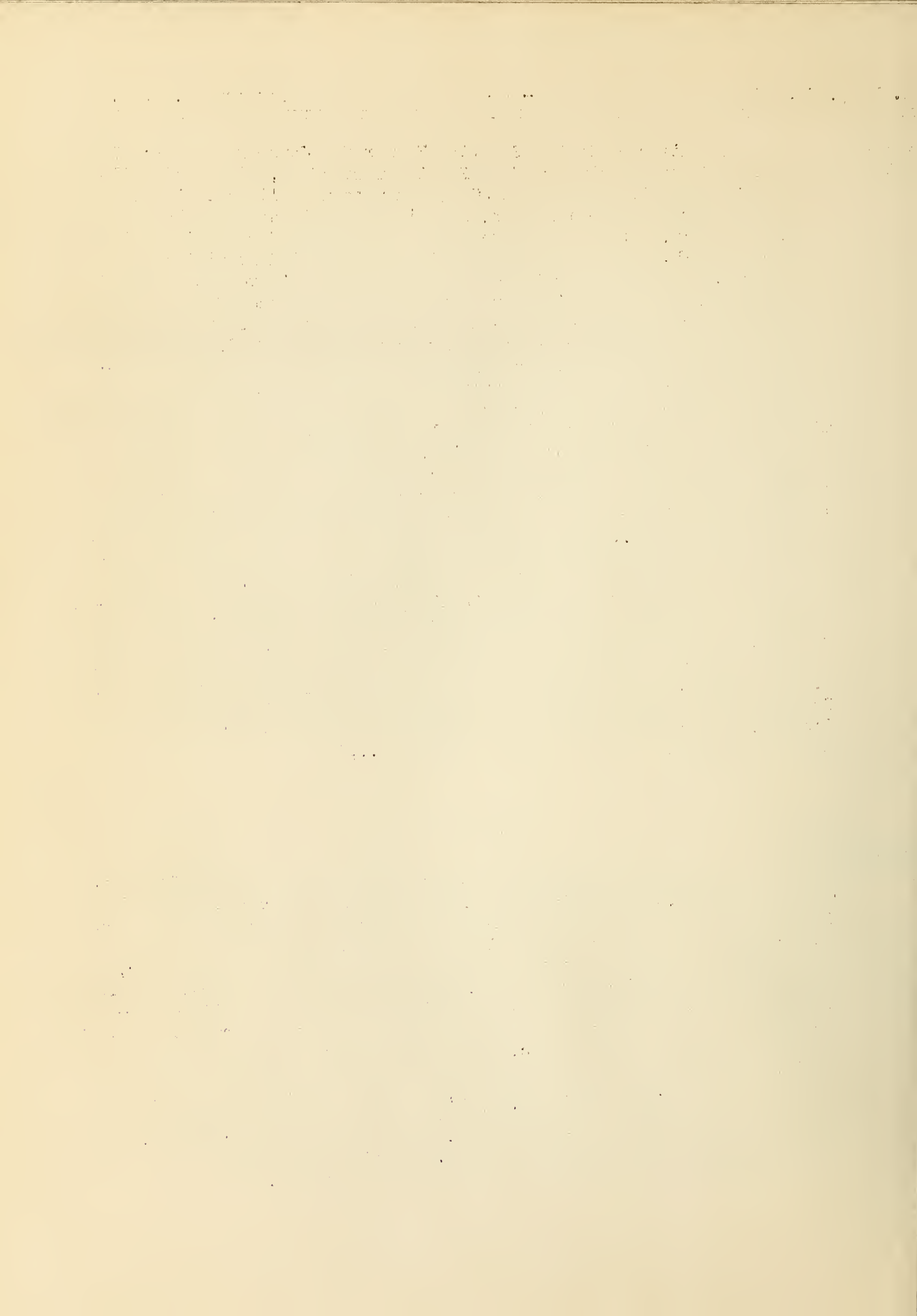
Scottish
School Milk
Tests

An editorial in The Scottish Farmer for January 17 says: "The results of the Lanarkshire Milk Feeding Test of 20,000 school children during the first half of 1930 have now been published. These confirm what every observant mother, one might almost say throughout the ages, has known, viz., that there is no better food for growing children than cow's milk. This is the second if not the third great test of the obvious which has been carried out in Scotland within recent years. Its cost has been defrayed mainly by a grant of 5,000 pounds from the Empire Marketing Board, supplemented by 2,000 pounds from the Central Advisory Committee of the Distress in Mining Areas (Scotland) Fund. The results are so overwhelmingly confirmatory of those derived from the two previous tests that a hope may be expressed that now the medical profession will take a lesson, and cease to belittle the use of home-produced milk as a staple food for children. It may also be hoped that in spite of the bias exhibited in the summaries, students of the tables may carefully note two things:--(1) The fact that the test was made with Grade A (T.T.) milk, and (2) that the results as between 'raw' and 'pasteurized' milk are in favor of the unsophisticated article as it comes from the cow....In the opinion of the teachers a marked improvement in health and buoyancy was seen among all the milk feeders after the scheme had been in operation for six or eight weeks. The improvement took the form of augmented vitality, both physical and intellectual. At the end of the 26 weeks the results as tabulated indorsed this verdict. Looking at the weight table one finds that in all the seven ages except one there was a marked increase in favor of the milk feeders in both sexes, and the exception is in the same age in both sexes. In the 'six' age the control boys and girls were heavier than the milk feeders. The same result is not seen in the height table; there the milk feeders have the advantage throughout...."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

An editorial in The Farm Journal for February says: "Approximately 100,000,000 additional bushels of the annual corn crop 'will immediately be diverted' to the making of corn sugar, says the largest manufacturer of corn products with enthusiasm. Secretary Hyde, announcing the removal of restrictions on corn sugar in food products, hazards a more cautious guess of 5,000,000 bushels and upward. Regardless of the exact amount, the increased market for corn will be substantial, and the effect on the corn price should be favorable. Further than that we do not like to go. We grow sugar cane and sugar beets in this country, and we do not want their markets reduced by a single pound. For foreign sugar, naturally, we have no such solicitude. On the whole, we approve Mr. Hyde's move. Corn sugar is identical with cane and beet sugar in most respects, is only a little less sweet, and in digestibility is probably superior. Justice and logic require that out-of-date restrictions on its use should be removed."



SECRET
CONFIDENTIAL

1. The purpose of this document is to provide a comprehensive overview of the current state of the project and to outline the key objectives and milestones for the upcoming phase.

2. The project has been initiated in response to the growing demand for a more efficient and secure communication system. The initial phase of the project has focused on the development of the core architecture and the implementation of the basic communication protocols.

3. The current state of the project is such that the core architecture has been successfully implemented, and the basic communication protocols are in place. The next phase of the project will focus on the development of the user interface and the implementation of the advanced communication protocols.

4. The key objectives of the upcoming phase are to develop a user interface that is intuitive and easy to use, and to implement advanced communication protocols that provide enhanced security and reliability.

5. The milestones for the upcoming phase are as follows:

- 5.1. Development of the user interface.
- 5.2. Implementation of the advanced communication protocols.
- 5.3. Testing and validation of the system.
- 5.4. Deployment of the system.

6. The project is currently on track, and it is expected that the system will be deployed by the end of the year. The project team is committed to ensuring that the system meets the highest standards of quality and security.

7. The project is a high-priority initiative, and it is essential that the project team remains focused and committed to the project's goals. The project team will continue to work closely with the stakeholders to ensure that the system meets their needs and expectations.

8. The project is a complex and challenging task, but it is also an exciting opportunity to develop a new and innovative communication system. The project team is confident that they will be able to successfully complete the project and deliver a system that meets the highest standards of quality and security.

9. The project is a critical component of the organization's overall strategy, and it is essential that the project team remains focused and committed to the project's goals. The project team will continue to work closely with the stakeholders to ensure that the system meets their needs and expectations.

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DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXX, No. 27

Section 1

February 2, 1931

RELIEF FUNDS

The Associated Press to-day says: "The flat statement that the House would refuse to compromise on the Senate's \$25,000,000 Red Cross relief proposal was made yesterday by Republican Leader Tilson..."

ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE

Representative Ragon of Arkansas told Congress on Saturday that drought and depression have practically ruined the agriculture of Arkansas, according to the press of February 1.

SENATOR SMITH ON COTTON

Solution of the depressing cotton situation by no planting of cotton in this country this year was advanced on Saturday by Senator Ellison D. Smith, of South Carolina, in an address over a nation-wide Columbia Broadcasting system hook-up, according to the

press of February 1.

RED CROSS AID

An editorial in The New York Times for February 1 says: "I am willing," said General Pershing, 'to trust the Red Cross in any emergency, anywhere, at any time.' But that trust is based on a confidence that the American people, whose agency it is, will provide it with funds to meet any emergency. One-half of the amount asked in the present appeal for the sufferers from the drought has been contributed. It is a gratifying response. But whatever else is done in the coming week, the other half (\$5,000,000 more) should be in hand or in certain prospect. There is no question as to the need, nor can there be doubt that this organization is the best able to cope with it. At least the amount estimated to be necessary to carry on and through to the end of the need should be promptly assured...."

EGYPTIAN COTTON PLANS

A Cairo dispatch to-day says: "It is now definite that the Egyptian Government within a period of six years will dispose of the 3,000,000 kantars (about 300,000,000 pounds) of cotton which it now holds. A half million kantars will be sold annually in small quantities at a time. The Egyptian Government for a long time had been considering how to dispose of its vast cotton holdings without seriously affecting the cotton market, already badly depressed. It finally decided on this six-year plan..."

FORD'S RUBBER EXPERIMENTS

An Associated Press dispatch to-day from Rio de Janeiro says: "Information reaching here from the northern city of Para states that Henry Ford, after investing several million dollars, apparently is giving up his huge rubber experiment on the Tapajos River. Recently the employees have been reduced from more than 3,000 to 200, while some of the Americans working on the project have resigned and others have been assigned to an Australian post...."

Section 2

Changing

Food Habits An editorial in The Southern Planter for February 1 says: "The changing food habits of the American people during the last decade are worth the consideration of the trucker and others who make a business of producing food. During the past forty years the per capita consumption of wheat and corn has been greatly reduced, while the consumption of dairy products and sugar has increased steadily. During the last seven years the amount of green food consumed has doubled, while that of stored root vegetables has declined proportionately. Shipments of carrots increased from 1,630 cars in 1920 to 12,028 in 1929, spinach from 3,089 to 10,317, strawberries from 7,207 to 18,732, and lettuce from 13,788 to 53,234. Perhaps the most outstanding cause for this great change is the introduction of machinery and labor-saving devices, which reduce the need of such large quantities of muscle-building food. A second reason is the increasing appreciation of the value of greens in the diet. Improvement in grading, handling and packing goods to make an appeal to the eye of even the casual observer also bears a part of the responsibility. Improved transportation facilities, making it possible to ship the most perishable fruits and vegetables across the continent in perfect condition, is another important factor in the case..."

Cottonseed

 An editorial in Farm and Ranch for January 24 says: "A forward step has been taken by the producers of good cottonseed in Texas. Heretofore, breeders and producers have had separate sales forces and have sold seed whenever and wherever an opportunity was found. Results from this method were not satisfactory. Overhead made high prices necessary and frequently pedigreed seed found its way to the oil mills when it would have been more profitable to Texas and the agricultural industry to have planted it. Breeders and producers of good seed have now organized and will pool their products, distributing, as nearly as possible, for community plantings. Only one sales organization will be used. Under this plan, it is hoped that the entire production of good seed will find its way into the hands of farmers, thus increasing the amount of good seed for another planting. Such a move on the part of breeders and producers should go a long way towards improving the general run of Texas cotton. Eventually it should return to Texas its old reputation for desirable staple...."

Economic
Standards

 William Trufant Foster and Waddill Catchings, founders of the Pollak Foundation for Economic Research, writing on "Must We Reduce Our Standard of Living?" in The Forum for February, say in part: "... Underlying these exhortations to spend less and save more is at least one fundamental fallacy. Usually it is not plainly stated, but always it is there. Now Thomas F. Wallace, president of the National Association of Mutual Savings Banks, expresses this common error in its baldest form. It is impossible, he says, for any country to save too much. He goes on, logically enough, to declare that the best thing consumers can do right now in order to assist in an economic revival is to put more money into the savings banks--in fact, all the money they do not need for 'necessities.' This, of course, means reducing their spending, and thereby reducing their standard of living...Most incredible of all, Banker Wallace urges us to entrust the banks with still more money, when they are daily proclaiming, through the lowest interest rates in a

The first part of the paper discusses the importance of the study of the history of the United States. It is argued that a knowledge of the past is essential for a full understanding of the present. The author then goes on to discuss the various factors that have shaped the development of the United States, including the influence of the British, the Spanish, and the French. The author also discusses the role of the American people in the development of the country, and the importance of the American Revolution. The paper concludes by discussing the future of the United States, and the role of the American people in shaping that future.

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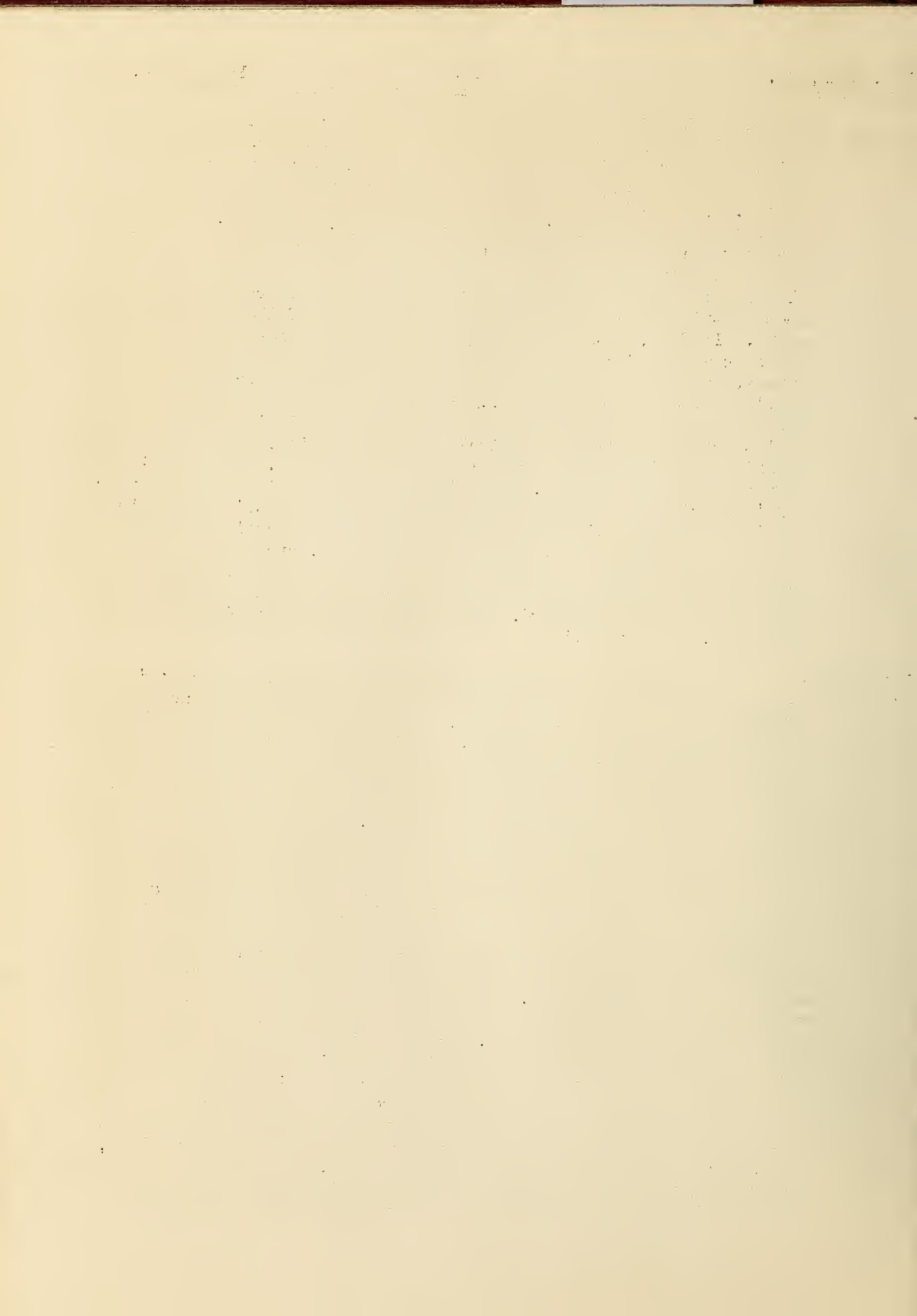
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decade of banking, that they can not find responsible borrowers for the savings already entrusted to them. And the reason they can not find borrowers is because nobody wants to borrow money wherewith to make goods for people who will save their money instead of buying the goods. It will be a happy day for jobless men and women and their children when industry is freed from the strangling grip of the old fallacy that a country can not save too much. Right now, the United States is saving too much. It is saving gold for which it has no use. It is saving money which will not be needed for increased capital equipment until enough consumers ignore the advice of these bankers and spend more. In fact, nothing in the whole distressed world of business is so obvious as the fact that the Nation has already saved too many mills, mines, factories, foundries, tanneries, oil wells, railroads, office buildings, and power plants...Fortunately, these bankers are mistaken. The way out of our troubles is not to render existing capital useless, but to create still more capital. The automobile, radio, and electric refrigerator industries are not horrible examples. They are inspiring examples. In the future, as in the past, we shall make real progress by increasing our equipment for producing 'luxuries.' And buying more of these 'luxuries.' And bringing forth more inventions. And developing more new industries. And, in the process, creating more bank credit and paying more wages. Thus we shall use our savings, instead of wasting them. In short, the way to go ahead is to plan to go ahead, and not to plan to go backward. 'The emblem of the United States is still an eagle, not a crab!'

Farm Organ-
ization

An editorial in The Farm Journal for February says: "The depression of 1930 in the business world was a source of reassurance and comfort in one respect, at least. It proved once more, and that in an emphatic manner, that an industrial civilization does rest securely only on a profitable agriculture....Knowing this situation, we have marvelled that trade and industry could keep going at high speed, year after year, piling up height upon height of production, sales and profits. At times we have wondered if, after all, the cities had not developed a technique which would make them independent of farm conditions. We know now that they have not. The cities lived for years on the necessities of war-torn Europe, and more recently they have lived on each other. That had to end. They turn back to their neglected farm market, to discover that that market has but ten thousand millions of annual purchasing power, where it should have fifteen thousand millions or more. Sales fall off in spite of desperate selling drives and reckless credit extension. Stocks crash, factories close, banks fail, mortgages are foreclosed, real estate is unsalable, unemployment and hunger stalk the city streets. And is all this, you ask, solely the result of insufficient farm income? No, it is not quite as simple as that. But if agriculture had been continuously in a position to exact a reasonable scale of prices for its products, the industrial inflation would not have reached such extravagant heights, and the crash would have been cushioned, if not altogether forestalled. We come back, therefore, to the problem of the farm income, how it can be permanently increased, what the cities can do to stabilize agricultural buying power, if anything, and what farmers themselves can do. It is no



secret that our answer to all these questions lies in one word: organization....It is because organization of farming has barely made a beginning that the 1930 crash fell instantly and heavily on the prices of farm staples. And it is most instructive to note that it is the best organized branches of the industry whose prices have suffered least, or, as in the case of the orange growers, scarcely at all. But we are departing from our major theme. Which is, in short, that farming is the basic industry; that manufacturing, finance, trade, transportation, can flourish for a time by exploiting agriculture, and particularly if there is a foreign vacuum to be filled; that nevertheless the cities face periodically the day of reckoning for their economic sins toward farming. In the latest of which, dazed, resentful and mostly uncomprehending, they are now floundering dismally."

Section 3

Department of Agri- culture

Science has won its first victory over an insect. The defeated party is no less a foe than the Florida fruit-fly, according to Industrial and Engineering Chemistry, the journal of the American Chemical Society. The Secretary of Agriculture has lifted the Federal quarantine on Florida products, instituted on account of the fruit-fly. If, as is expected, it is shown that the fly has been eradicated, then this feat will be recorded as well-nigh the first real victory of the race over an insect. The Journal goes on: "Following the unexplained appearance of the Mediterranean fruit-fly in the Florida citrus region, forces were marshalled for the encounter. The Federal Government has expended approximately \$6,355,000 in the effort to exterminate the pest completely. Added to this must be counted the cooperation of the citizens and of the officials of Florida. The first infestation was discovered in April, 1929, and the eradication campaign began at once. Intensive inspections and field work were resumed last July, 700 inspectors being employed. Between August 1 and November 1 approximately 600,000 specimens were submitted for examination, and none was identified as being a Mediterranean fruit-fly. This inspection covered both commercial and noncommercial properties, and also large areas of wild hosts. At present there is no known infestation in the entire State. However, Federal inspectors will be retained to discover any infestations which may possibly remain. It is believed that Florida officials will take such steps as may be necessary for further eradication should the future require."



Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Jan. 31.--Livestock: Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.90 to \$7.40; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.90 to \$8.10; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.35 to \$8.10 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations).

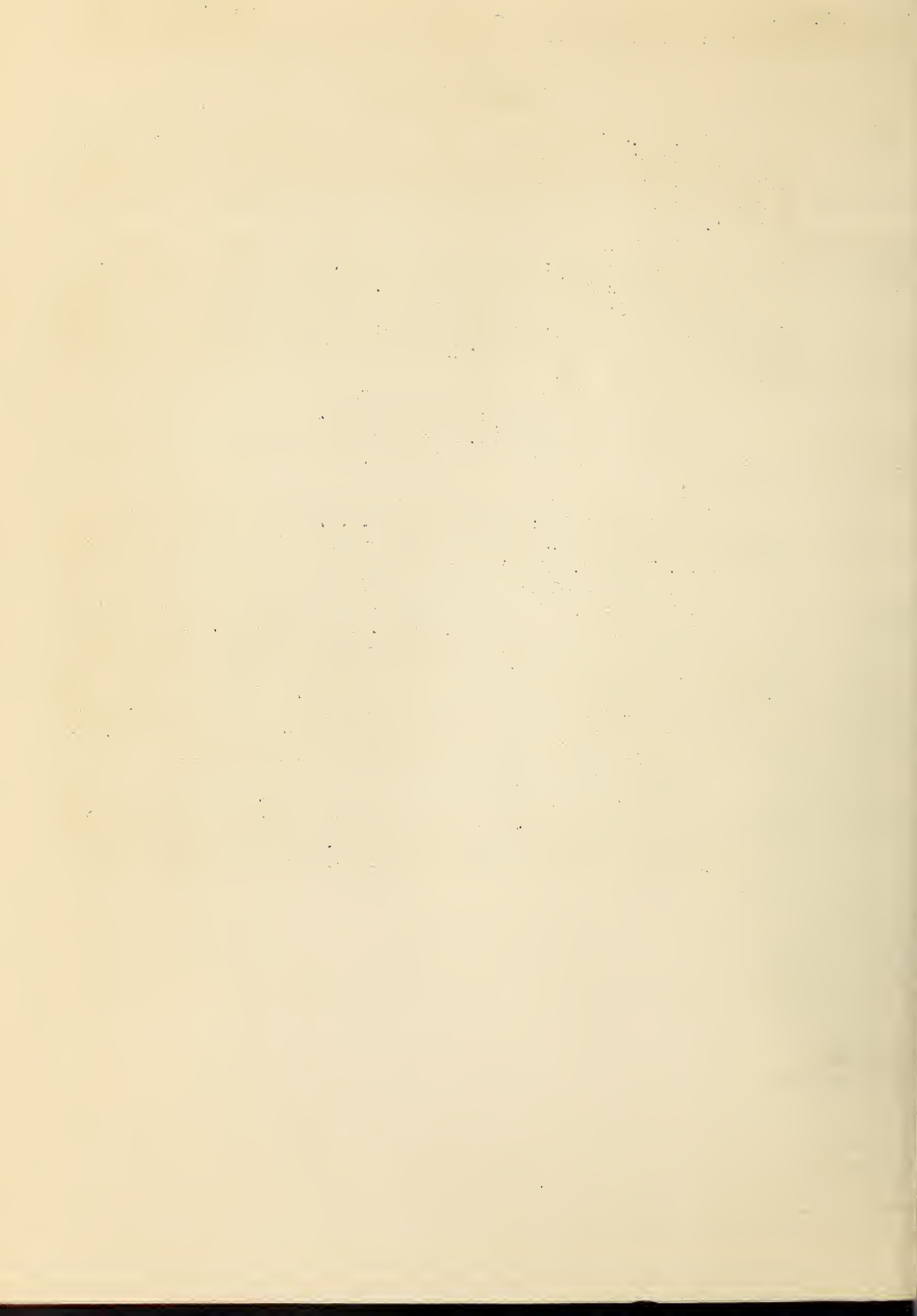
Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $73\frac{1}{2}$ to $77\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 80 to $80\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City $68\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 69¢; No.3 mixed corn Minneapolis $51\frac{1}{2}$ to $53\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 51 to $52\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 61 to $62\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis $53\frac{1}{2}$ to $55\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis $60\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 54 to 56¢; No.3 white oats Chicago $31\frac{1}{2}$ to $31\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis $28\frac{1}{2}$ to $29\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 33¢; Kansas City $31\frac{1}{2}$ to 32¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 29¢; 91 score, $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 28¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $17\frac{1}{2}$ to $18\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, $16\frac{3}{4}$ to $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas, $17\frac{1}{2}$ to 18¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.65-\$2 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1.15-\$1.20 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions brought 55¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; $72\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-75¢ f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage closed at \$15-\$21 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.75-\$2.25 per western lettuce crate in eastern cities; very few \$1-\$1.10 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Florida Pointed type \$1-\$1.25 per $1\frac{1}{2}$ -bushel hamper in New York City. Florida various varieties of strawberries sold at 40¢-55¢ per quart in city markets; 33¢-34¢ f.o.b. Plant City. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$3.50-\$4 per barrel in New York City; \$3.50-\$4 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 4 points to 9.55¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.85¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 4 points to 10.36¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 2 points to 10.39¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXX, No. 28

Section 1

February 3, 1931.

THE PRESIDENT ASKS FEDERAL FUNDS

The press to-day states that President Hoover yesterday laid before Congress a request to make available immediately \$53,742,987 to meet emergencies that have arisen in the operation of Government agencies during the current fiscal year. The report says: "With this, along with estimates of \$68,000,000 for public building construction and other requests, indications are that the second deficiency appropriation bill for this session will exceed \$125,000,000, or about the same amount as the first deficiency measure, which is in conference....."

WAGNER EMPLOY- MENT BILL

The Wagner advance planning bill, designed to stabilize employment, was passed yesterday by the House, according to the press to-day. The bill, which now goes back to the Senate for agreement to amendments, would provide establishment of a Federal employment stabilization board to watch the trend of employment and cooperate with construction agencies in advance planning.

MUSCLE SHOALS

The Associated Press to-day says: "Members of the House Muscle Shoals conferees have prepared a new compromise proposal to offer the Senate managers on the controversial issue of fertilizer production. Representative Wurzbach of Texas said yesterday he has drafted a provision for a division of power in the operation of the nitrate plants. Under the new proposal, he said, not less than 85 per cent of the power output could be used for fertilizer production and not more than 15 per cent for manufacturing chemical by-products."

FORD'S RUBBER PROJECTS

A Detroit dispatch to-day says: "Ford Motor Company officials yesterday made a blanket denial of a report that Mr. Ford was abandoning his extensive rubber-growing project on the Tapajos River in Brazil. The report was contained in a dispatch from Rio de Janeiro and was to the effect that the giving up of the experiment followed native antagonism to efficiency methods brought from Detroit. The Ford officials said that 'nothing has transpired to change the prospects of the developing of the rubber plantation or to change the program.' They further declared that 'the rumors on which the report was based have their origin outside the actual events and conditions at the plantation.'...."

ITALY SEEKS ARGENTINE BEEF

A Buenos Aires dispatch to the press of February 2 says: "Italy is negotiating with the Argentine Government for the acquisition of 15,000 tons of frozen beef in the current year. Italy ceased her former heavy purchases of Argentine beef about five years ago and since then had been purchasing in South Africa. Although details are not yet available, it is believed that Italy is seeking a barter arrangement or reciprocal credits with which Argentina will take a corresponding value in Italian products. Italy is one of several European countries in which the Provisional Government recently has been trying to find new markets for Argentine raw materials."



Section 2

Bakery
Mergers

Thomas M. Foristall, writing on "The Changed Status of the Baking Industry" in Barron's for February 2, says: "Two recent developments hold more than passing interest to equity shareholders in the baking industry. They are, first, the success of the Palmer-Morrow-McInnerney-Hayden interests in securing control of Ward Baking Corp., despite bitter opposition of recalcitrant incumbents of official positions in the organization; second, the proposed recapitalization of General Baking Corp. The companies are two of the former big three 'old Ward' companies. With each, the late William B. Ward was once identified. Earning power has shown up poorly in recent years. Holders of the junior shares have never received a dollar in income on their investment. The developments manifest the desire of shareholders finally to realize something on their commitment. And they may promise to mark the beginning of a new era (from an investment point of view) in the country's bread-baking industry, especially for the 'old Ward' companies...."

Cotton Con-
sumption

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for February 2 says: "In its issue of Thursday The Journal of Commerce published a survey of the world cotton trade in 1930 made by the economist of the New York Cotton Exchange, Mr. Garside. The reasons why the year ended with cotton prices about 50 per cent below the average of the preceding three years are set forth in connection with an analysis of world statistics of production, consumption and stocks on hand. Two facts stand out most clearly and give rise to certain important conclusions drawn by Mr. Garside. He notes that, in the first place, the collapse of prices and the steady accumulation of stocks on hand have not been due to great increases in world production but to pronounced contraction in world consumption. Secondly, the reduction in consumption has been limited entirely to American cotton. During the past calendar year there was no decline at all, and possibly a slight increase, in consumption of foreign cotton, whereas consumption of American cotton fell about 3,000,000 bales. Last year the proportion of foreign to total world cotton consumption was, as a result, very close to 50 per cent, and about 1,000,000 bales above average consumption in the preceding three years. In the light of this situation it is extremely important to know more about the reasons for the decreased use of American cotton. Apparently depression in the cotton industry has been greatest in those countries that use large proportions of American cotton. In this country alone there was a decrease of 1,670,000 bales in cotton consumption during 1930 as compared with 1929, and that means a virtually equivalent decline in American cotton consumption. England, also, which reported a 25 per cent decline in total consumption, normally relies upon the American product to meet about three-fifths of her requirements. The Continental producers who, as a rule, cover about two-thirds of their requirements with American cotton, decreased their total consumption 7 per cent. On the other hand, the countries of the Far East and smaller consuming areas, which ordinarily use only about one-fourth American cotton, consumed practically the same amount of cotton of all kinds in 1930 as in the preceding year...."

**Drought
Losses**

A Little Rock, Ark., dispatch February 2 says: "The agricultural and cotton planting South is facing its greatest crisis since the Civil War. The problems of reconstruction were no greater than to-day face the business men planters and legislators of the Mississippi Valley States. How long it will take these States to solve their financial and agricultural problems which have been precipitated by the drought nobody will attempt to guess, but it is obvious that the South faces a long and perhaps desperate struggle to emerge from its present bankruptcy. Many of the States themselves are in as great difficulties as the planters and small farmers. How to obtain taxes from a country which has no money is a problem that would vex a Roman Emperor. The plight of Arkansas, which is trying to issue bonds for relief, bonds which nobody will buy because part of the last issue is still unsold, is not unusual. There are other States also which face deficits, and whose credit is impaired by the widespread collapse of the cotton belt and its consequent effect on the banks and business. The most conservative bankers and business men see ahead a long road to travel, and many reforms in banking and the agricultural system, before prosperity again returns to the South...."

Meat Prices

Present wholesale prices of most meats represent a sharp decline from a year ago, according to a review of the meat and livestock situation issued February 1 by the Institute of American Meat Packers. A further decline in fresh pork prices at wholesale was a feature of the meat trade during the month of January. Comparisons of wholesale prices during the last part of January, 1931, with those of a year ago, show that the decline in meat prices at wholesale has been general, although some meats have declined more than others. Some of the conspicuous declines are as follows: Fresh pork loins, about 33 per cent lower; fresh skinned pork shoulders, 30 per cent lower; dressed beef, from 22 per cent on the better grades to 34 per cent on lower grades; veal, about 38 per cent lower, and lamb from 21 to 30 per cent lower. Prices of hides were somewhat lower. The export trade in meats continued unsatisfactory throughout the month.

**Roosevelt on
Milk Use**

Calling attention to decreasing consumption of dairy products, Governor Roosevelt in an address broadcast on Saturday in the radio program of the Dairymen's League urged farm groups to begin a concerted movement to broaden the market, according to an Albany, N.Y., dispatch February 1. The Governor pointed out that the farmers themselves were small consumers of dairy products and suggested that they should start the work in their own homes and utilize as well the machinery of their organization to augment the sale of their products.

**Traylor
Urges
Economic
Confer-
ence**

A Dallas dispatch to-day states that Melvin A. Traylor, president of the First National Bank of Chicago, in an address yesterday before the Salesmanship Club of Dallas, called for a conference representing labor, business, industry and Government to formulate a new national economic policy to check the recurrence of depressions. A fundamental of such a policy, Mr. Traylor said, would be a wage scale responsive to either rising or falling markets, and his inference was that in the present situation of declining prices there should be a general reduction of wages. In reaching his conclusion, Mr. Traylor

traced the causes of the current depression from wartime expansion of industry and agriculture through the 1922-29 period of sustaining that inflation, with the rise in demand spurred by installment buying and stock speculation, but with no corresponding increase in commodity prices. With increasingly mechanized and extended plants producing more than could be consumed, he said, the overstimulated demand finally collapsed through the exhaustion of purchasing power.

Violet Rays and Food

Chester Morton writes of the accomplishment of Professor Sperti of the University of Cincinnati in his research in connection with the ultra-violet ray, in Review of Reviews for February. He says in part: "Georgé Sperti of Cincinnati is just thirty years old. He is a full professor and the head of a laboratory. But most striking of all is the fact that he has just sold an idea for a goodly sum, reputed to be a quarter of a million dollars, plus royalties to come. Professor Sperti does not himself receive the money; it goes to his university for further research. Ideas are not readily evaluated in terms of money, and although it is certain that Professor Sperti's invention will be worth much more than its selling price, it is impossible now to say what its worth will be in terms of human life and health. The application of the theory which has been sold concerns the effect of light on foods. The purchaser is the General Food Corporation of New York; and the two chief uses to which the invention will be put are the preservation of foodstuffs and the investing of them with the important vitamin D....There are many fields in which the theory may be applied. Selected rays may be used in hastening the growth of hot-house flowers. The truck gardener should find them valuable in forcing products out of season. The poultry man will be able to grow larger and healthier chickens at small cost. These are but a few of the potential commercial uses. Professor Sperti's invention by which it can be determined what wave lengths kill bacteria has had interesting results in connection with the preservation of foods. By killing the bacteria which cause decay in foodstuffs, the foods can be made sterile and thus preserved. The use of the special rays indicated by the theory enables the prevention of decay without changing the taste, appearance, or odor of the foods..."

Wool Market

The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for January 31 says: "The market has continued moderately active this week both in worsted and woolen wools, with prices practically steady on the basis of last week's closing rates. The nature of the demand has changed little, favoring the finer wools mostly. There seems to be a disposition on the part of buyers to await the opening of the new heavyweight season, and purchases in the meantime are for piecing-out orders for prompt delivery or for sampling purposes, and the volume of business is not large. Foreign markets are a bit steadier following the shortening of the London sales to close Feb. 5 by the withholding of 50,000 bales. The exchange premium against Australia is up 5 per cent for the week to 30 per cent on cable transfers."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Feb. 2.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9 to \$12.50; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$10; vealers, good and choice \$9 to \$11; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$7 to \$8.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.65 to \$7.25; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.90 to \$8.10; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.35 to \$8.10 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8.25 to \$9.10; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 73 $\frac{5}{8}$ to 77 $\frac{5}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter Chicago 78 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 80 to 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 78 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ to 69¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 61 to 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 52 to 54¢; Kansas City 51 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 53¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 60 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 54 to 56¢; St. Louis 60 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 56¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 32¢; Minneapolis 28 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 32 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 32 to 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Sacked Green Mountain potatoes from Maine brought \$1.70-\$2.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1.15 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Danish type cabbage closed at \$17-\$21 bulk per ton in terminal markets; mostly \$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$2-\$2.35 per western lettuce crate in city markets; \$1-\$1.10 f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions ranged 55¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 72 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢-75¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Florida various varieties of strawberries brought 35¢-50¢ per quart in city markets; 33¢-34¢ f.o.b. Plant City. New York McIntosh apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, \$1.50-\$1.75 per bushel basket in New York City; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.20-\$1.25 f.o.b. Rochester.

The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets was unchanged at 9.55¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price was 15.46¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange were unchanged at 10.36¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 2 points to 10.41¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 29¢; 91 score, 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 28¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXX, No. 29

Section 1

February 4, 1931.

THE PRESIDENT ON RELIEF

The New York Times to-day says: "President Hoover defined his views on the relief appropriation controversy yesterday, adhering to his contention that funds should be raised by voluntary contributions, but in the course of a review of the efforts to counteract distress, made a suggestion which is widely interpreted here as an expression of willingness to compromise with the Senate by having Congress provide funds if the Red Cross is unable to raise enough to overcome the prevailing suffering....The President's statement on the Senate's effort to appropriate \$25,000,000 for direct relief of unemployment and distress in the drought-stricken farm areas, was based on the threat of forcing an extra session of Congress made yesterday by Senator Borah.

"I will accredit to those who advocate Federal charity a natural anxiety for the people of their States," the President said. "I am willing to pledge myself that if the time should ever come that the voluntary agencies of the country, together with the local and State governments, are unable to find resources with which to prevent hunger and suffering in my country, I will ask the aid of every resource of the Federal Government, because I could no more see starvation among our countrymen than would any Senator or Congressman. I have faith in the American people that such a day will not come."...."

RED CROSS SUBSCRIPTIONS

President Hoover yesterday made public a letter from Judge John Barton Payne, chairman of the Red Cross, saying that the campaign to raise \$10,000,000 for drought relief was proceeding with "reasonable satisfaction" and expressing confidence in the outcome. Judge Payne disclosed that subscriptions so far reached aggregated \$5,520,463. (Press, Feb. 4.)

BANK ASSOCIATION HEAD ON BUSINESS

That the business depression has struck bottom and that conditions are improving in all parts of the country was the message taken to President Hoover yesterday by R. C. Stephenson of South Bend, Ind., president of the American Bankers Association, according to the press to-day. From this time on he expects to see business show a gradual improvement, Mr. Stephenson told newspaper correspondents after his conference with the President.

CHINA'S WHEAT MARKET

A Tokyo dispatch to-day says: "China offers no market at present for surplus Canadian or American wheat, in the opinion of Herbert H. Marler, Canadian Minister to Japan, after an investigation of the whole trade situation there. China has become a large buyer of wheat flour and offers a valuable future field, Mr. Marler believes, but she is at present purchasing large quantities of Australian wheat, which, owing to a break in exchange, is obtainable at \$4 a short ton under the Canadian prices. Mr. Marler is impressed with the rapid decay of China's purchasing power, due to the fall of silver, and he fears the market for pro-foreign goods will soon cease to exist in China unless remedial measures are found."



Section 2

Canadian
Wheat Sit-
uation

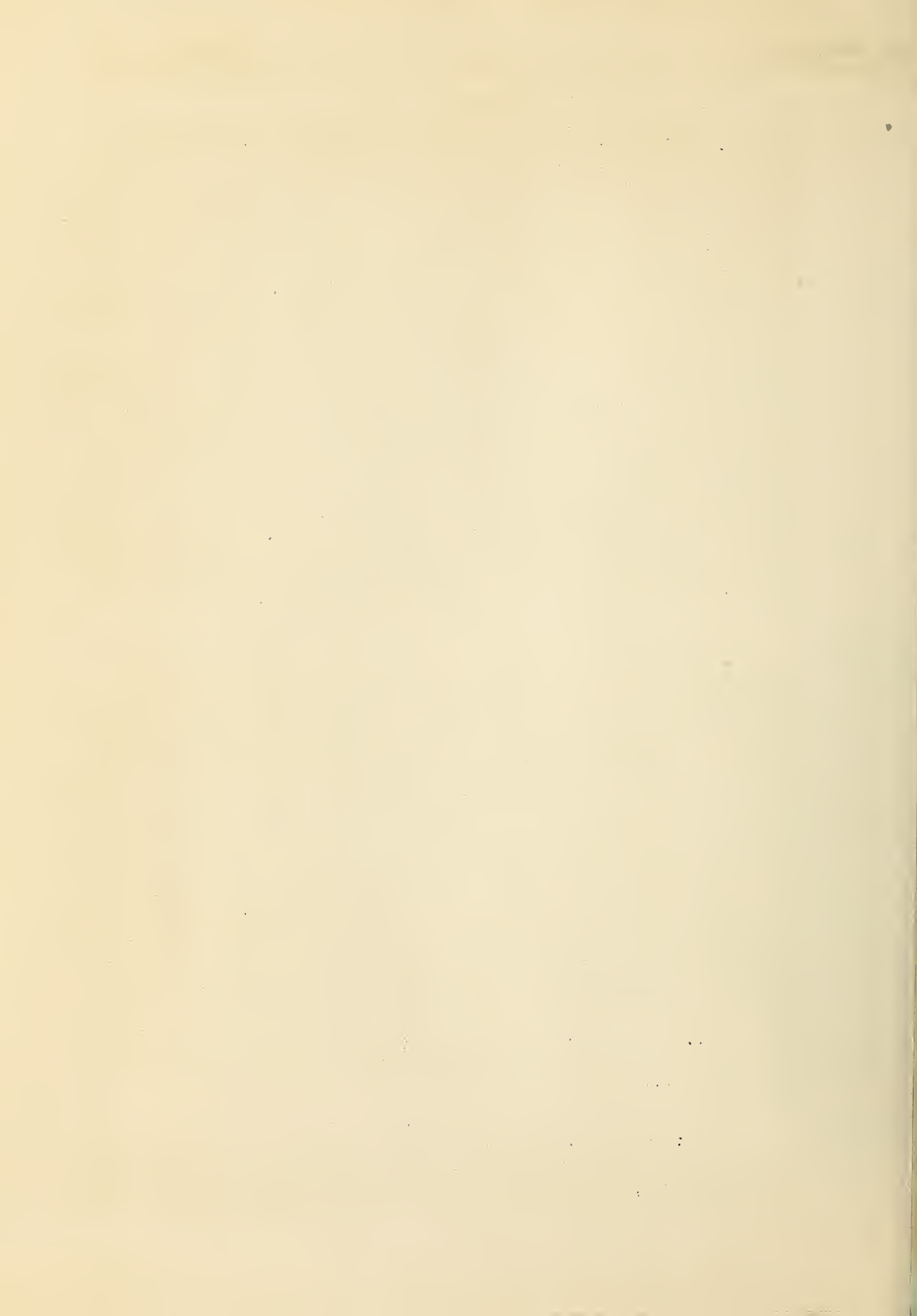
An editorial in Country Guide (Winnipeg) for February says: "It is quite natural that hard times should bring many suggested remedies. This present depression is world-wide and is most severe. The remedies proposed are many and various. It is neither pessimistic nor discouraging to say that most of the remedies proposed bring very little hope for permanent improvement....The proposal that the Dominion government should fix a price of \$1 per bushel for No.1 northern wheat on the farm can hardly be taken seriously when it is realized that it would mean a bonus of something like \$150,000,000 from the Dominion treasury for western grain growers. The proposition made to the Dominion government by the three prairie premiers for a guarantee of 70 cents per bushel at Fort William is very much more reasonable and one which the Dominion government might well have given more consideration. On the basis of present prices even a guarantee of 70 cents per bushel might have cost the Dominion treasury anywhere up to \$50,000,000. It would, however, have relieved the western situation immediately and would have had a profound effect in restoring better business conditions throughout Canada. The project for raising a \$5,000,000 revolving fund to provide long-term credit for the livestock industry is a good proposition if wisely managed and supervised....The record of a similar type of organization in Minnesota seems to be good....Mixed farming is bound to make very steady and substantial progress as a direct result of the depression and a well organized livestock credit system will fit in with the program of diversified agriculture..."

Community
Organiza-
tions

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for January 31 says: "The self-reliant, active, cooperatively-minded rural community must be the basic factor in any movement that tries to improve rural life. That's why to us the most significant feature of the recent Iowa Farm Bureau convention was the recognition of 156 standard township Farm Bureaus. A standard township Farm Bureau is just a rural community that is all hooked up and starting some place. The first one in Iowa, Fisher township in Fremont County, also won the first community contest put on by this paper. To have helped to build 156 first-class rural community organizations in the State is a major achievement, for which the Farm Bureau and the extension service deserve all sorts of credit. It should be remembered, also, that several hundred more townships are almost ready for the same rating. We need such communities for what they may do in helping to create new methods of marketing and in aiding in the reconstruction of the tax system. We need them even more as leaders in creating new ways of thinking. Our energy as a people has been turned toward ways of getting more for the individual, toward making machinery that would enable the individual to accomplish more work. We need now to think more about ways of enriching the community as a whole....If we ever do learn to think in terms of the social group instead of the individual, the rural community will have a lot to do with it...."

Farm Relief

Theodore G. Joslin writes under the title "The Farmers' Way Out" in World's Work for February. Mr. Joslin in his extended survey of agricultural relief discusses reduction of acreage, diversification, export debentures, equalization fees and cooperative marketing. He



says in part: "Agriculture is out of balance fundamentally. Overproduction and faulty distribution are responsible more than anything else for the problem that has harassed the Nation for a decade. It can be solved only by the farmers themselves--the more than six million individuals scattered from coast to coast who must adjust production to the potential consumer demand, if their business is to be placed on a firm foundation and made profitable. Equally important, they must revolutionize their marketing practices, substituting collective action for the individual competition in which they have engaged. The Federal Government is helpless other than to make financing easier and to assist in the establishment of sound cooperative organizations. Such legislative enactments as the equalization fee and the export debenture, for dealing with present-day exportable surpluses, are little more than quack remedies. They would result only in taking the farmers to the mountain tops, showing them the world, and casting them down again. Such proposals contemplate subsidizing the exportation of excess supplies. Most importing countries have embargoes of countervailing duties that would defeat the very purpose of the proposals. Moreover dumping of surpluses on foreign markets, if permitted, would depress world prices to perhaps the extent of the subsidy, thereby benefiting no one. American producers can help themselves most by restricting themselves to the domestic market, thus coming within the charmed circle of protection that this Government of itself can give, whatever the world situation may be. These are the principal conclusions I have reached after a survey, beginning early last summer and extending into the fall, that carried me from the Atlantic into the Rockies and from the Canadian border to the southland. The 'swing around the circle' afforded an opportunity to secure firsthand information from dirt farmers and swivel-chair experts, heads of cooperative organizations and those who do not believe in the 'coops,' operators and speculators, State officials and the highest of national executives. Although marked differences of opinion were expressed, there was a surprising unanimity regarding the outstanding phases of the problem..."

Floriculture

An editorial in The Florists Exchange for January 31 says: "One of the most significant statements made at the eventful first New York Florists Short Course, held in Ithaca the week of Jan. 19, was that of Dean A. R. Mann of the College of Agriculture, when he greeted the florist-students. While commending them for their work and aims, he frankly stated that, whereas some \$600,000 are being spent by the college each year for research, only \$5,000 of that sum is at present being devoted to the problems of floricultural. When we realize the magnitude and possibilities of our industry--even though our knowledge of its real dimensions is vague--how can we avoid the feeling that we have not lived up to the task expected of us if we permit the business to be handicapped by so relatively insignificant provision for study of its many and varied problems? There is no lack of skilled, interested, and ambitious scientific experts, ready to delve into the mysteries from which solutions to our problems may be wrung. But they can not do so without support. The legislative authorities will not provide such support until they are forced to by the requests of those that need the help and by evidence, offered by them, that their problems are worthy of the work called for. This is

no time for florists to be silent, or even modest, about their profession. Let them, throughout the country, appeal for--yes, demand--the necessary funds with which to develop the various sides and departments of their business."

Holland
Flour
Trade

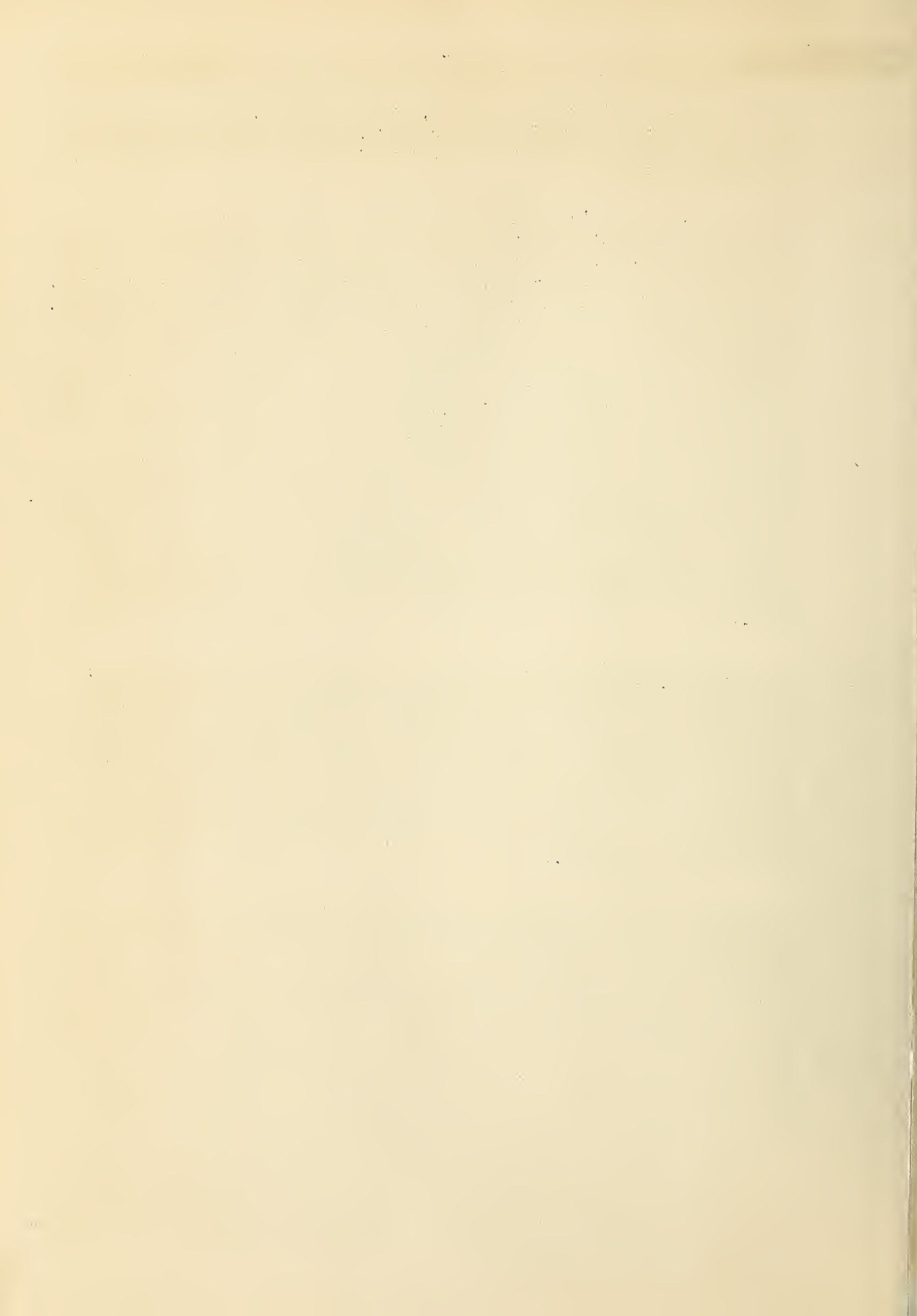
An editorial in Modern Miller for January 31 says: "It is not necessary to recite figures to impress the fact that Holland is a very important market for American flour. Dutch importers buy a big volume of American flour for consumption in Holland and for Continental distribution. With the enactment of the Dutch law providing for compulsory admixture of Holland wheat flour, problems have developed which require cooperation between exporters and importers, and this issue should be met with prompt and vigorous action. Dutch millers, grinding imported wheat, together with home grown, are planning to control this flour trade, shutting out imported flour wherever it originates. Dutch bakers are partial to American flour, which is specially suited to their trade. The matter of blending to meet the requirements of the Dutch law is an issue that must be solved mutually by exporting millers and Dutch importers and it behooves active cooperation. How are American millers organized to act in this matter? Is it a problem for the export committee of the Millers' National Federation, or for a group of millers who have a special and primary interest in maintaining this trade? Every barrel lost in Holland trade will be reflected back in domestic competition. Action should be taken! Who is going to take it?..."

Lamb
Program

An editorial in The National Wool Grower for January says: "The Idaho Association's enthusiastic support of the new lamb educational program through the larger National Association budget is a fine demonstration of the possibilities of organized effort that have not been recognized or appreciated heretofore. The California Association is inaugurating new lines of activity to fully acquaint its members with the business possibilities of the new program and the advantages to be obtained by them through putting up the State's full quota of the national budget for 1931....The full support from all the States is assured...."

Taxation

An editorial in The Farmer and Farm, Stock and Home for January 31 says: "The American Farm Bureau Federation has selected the very timely subject of taxation as the basis for a nation-wide conference to be held in Chicago during the first week of February. Just at this time when most of the State legislatures are debating ways and means of easing the farmers' tax burden without unduly crippling other classes of citizens, it seems appropriate that the views of agriculture should be boiled down to some concrete and uniform ideas that farmers everywhere can agree upon. A plan for a uniform State income tax is particularly desirable if the income tax is to be generally accepted. Reducing the tax burden is one of the most certain methods of rehabilitating agriculture. There is general agreement that farmers can not continue to carry the present unfair burden. Relief from this situation is merely a question of deciding just how the load can be lightened. It is hoped that the forthcoming tax conference to be held by the American Farm Bureau Federation will help to clarify public thought on this question to a point where action can be demanded and secured from the State legislatures now in session."



Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Feb. 3.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9 to \$12.50; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$10; vealers, good and choice \$8.50 to \$10.50; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$8.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$7.10; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.85 to \$8; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$8; (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8.25 to \$9.10; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.25.

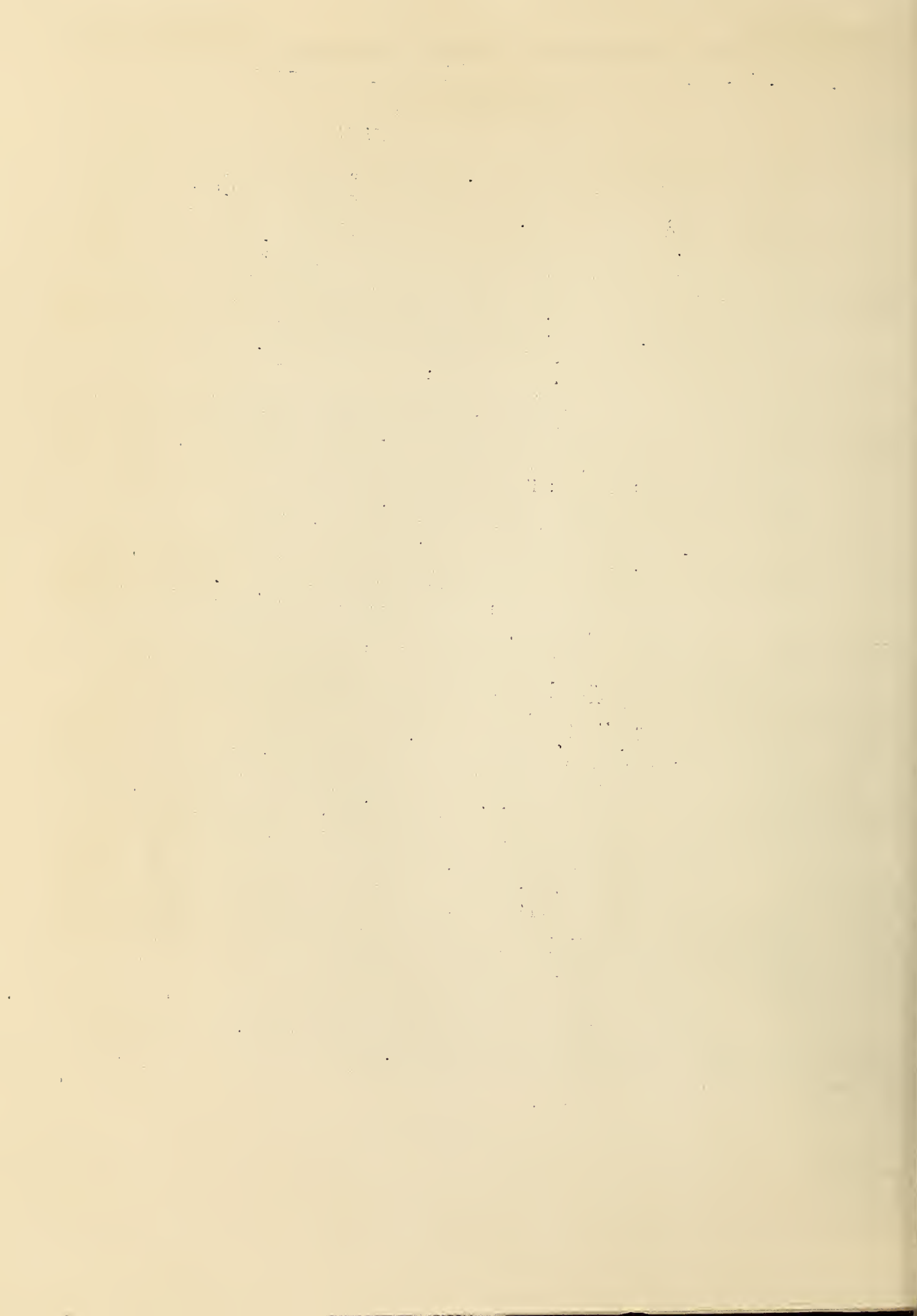
Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 73 $\frac{5}{8}$ to 77 $\frac{5}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter Chicago 78 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 80 to 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City 68 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 61 to 62¢; Minneapolis 53 to 54¢; Kansas City 52 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 54¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 63 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 53 to 55¢; St. Louis 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 55 to 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 31 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 29 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 30 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 32 to 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes brought \$1.70-\$2.05 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.40-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.10-\$1.15 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions brought 55¢-\$1.25 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 50¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Delaware and Maryland Jersey type sweet potatoes ranged \$1.50-\$2.15 per bushel hamper in eastern cities; New Jersey stock \$2.65-\$2.85 in New York City and Tennessee Nancy Halls, house stored \$1.25-\$1.35 in Chicago. Florida various varieties of strawberries 30¢-50¢ per quart in city markets; 30¢-30 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ f.o.b. Plant City. New York Danish type cabbage closed at \$15-\$20 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$11-\$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.75-\$2.25 per western lettuce crate in city markets; 90¢-\$1 f.o.b. lower Rio Grande Valley points. New York McIntosh apples \$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; one car \$1.60 f.o.b. Rochester. New York Rhode Island Greenings \$3.50-\$4; McIntosh \$4.50-\$5.50 per barrel in New York City.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 5 points to 9.60¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.60¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 5 points to 10.41¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 4 points to 10.45¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 28¢; 91 score, 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 27¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXX, No. 30

Section 1

February 5, 1931.

RELIEF LEG- ISLATION

The press to-day says: "Although as firmly opposed as ever to calling the next Congress into an extra session, President Hoover will summon such a session if it is found that the relief measures already taken to mitigate unemployment and overcome suffering in the drought-stricken farm areas are inadequate and recourse to congressional aid is found necessary..."

YOUNG ON BONUS PAYMENTS

Although opposed to extensive Government financing to provide cash bonus payments to veterans of the World War, Owen D. Young, chairman of the board of the General Electric Company and New York financier, yesterday urged on the House ways and means committee a plan to extend the loan value of adjusted compensation certificates, but only in cases of actual distress. Mr. Young declared that his plan of extending liberal loans only to the needy veterans could be financed for about \$500,000,000, which the Treasury could raise without making large long-term loans. (Press, Feb. 5.)

YOUNG ON BANKS

Drastic reforms in bank-chartering practices, even to the extent of a constitutional amendment permitting complete Federal control of commercial banks, were advocated by Owen D. Young, to combat the epidemic of bank failures during the last decade, in testimony before a subcommittee of the Senate banking and currency committee yesterday. (Press, Feb. 5.)

VITAMIN A SUBSTITUTE

A Morgantown, W. Va., dispatch to-day states that a synthetic substitute for vitamin A, the growth factor, has been found at the University of West Virginia. The report says: "The substance is a combination of iodine, fats and iron. There is nothing mysterious about it. Thus far it has been tried only on rats and the results were obtained quite simply by giving them along with meals ferrous oxide which contains the iodine and iron, and linoleic acid, which has the fats. In reporting the discovery to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Dr. F. E. Chidester says: 'Without forcibly feeding the animal, we have demonstrated that for those that will consume the linoleic acid and ferrous oxide combination there is apparent ability to synthesize vitamin A.'...."

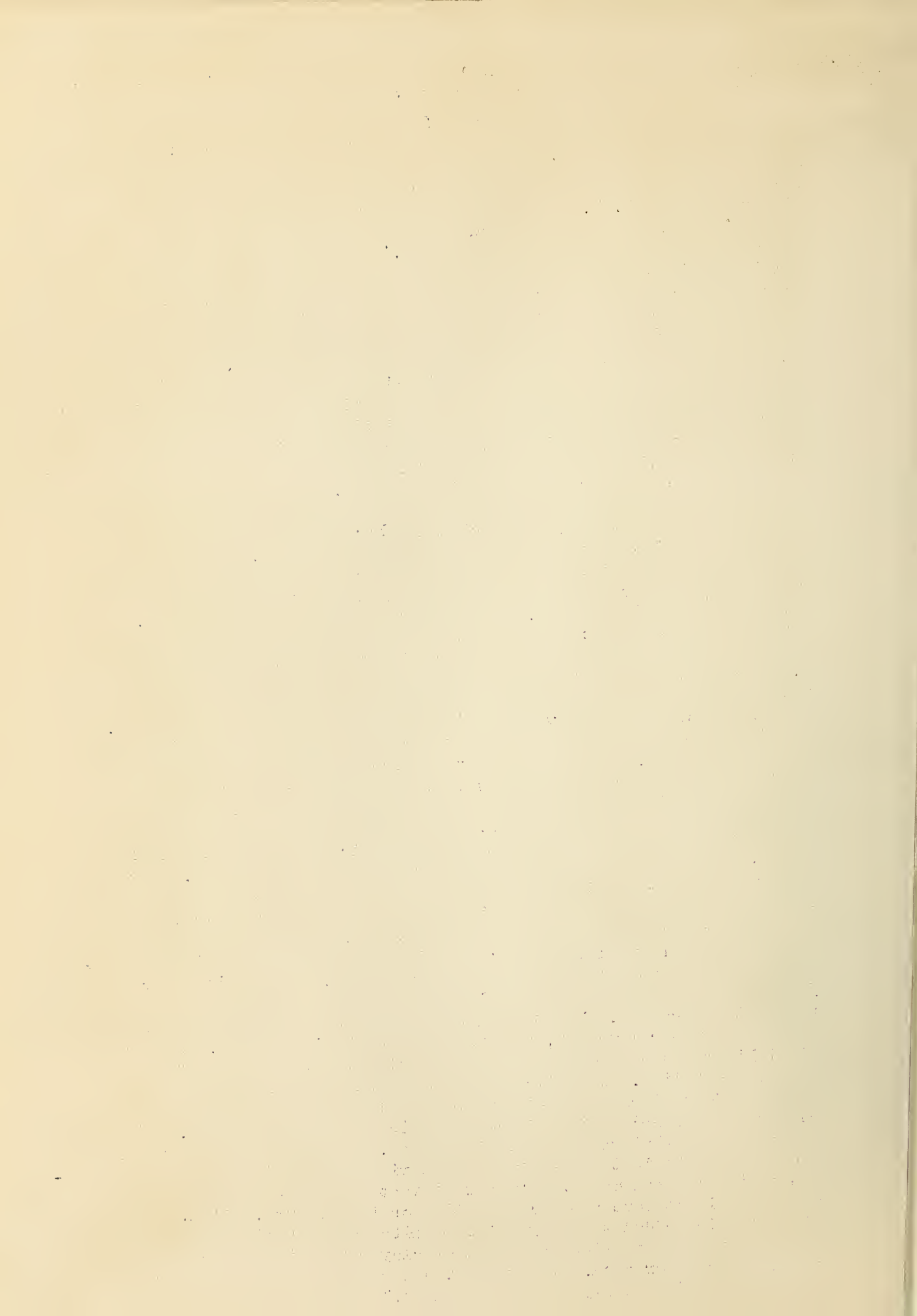
EINSTEIN'S NEW THEORY

A Pasadena dispatch to-day says: "Albert Einstein has a new concept of cosmology. The old Einstein universe is a thing of the past. A gasp of astonishment swept through the library of the Mount Wilson-Carnegie Institution of Washington laboratory at Pasadena yesterday when the Berlin professor, with a few simple words, made this revelation. World famous astronomers present saw in his words a new field for research. 'Regardless of what field equations are used, space never can be anything similar to the old symmetrical spherical space theory,' the professor said in closing an hour and a half talk on his new unified field theory...."

Section 2

Animal Industry An editorial in The New Freedom for February 4 says: "In these mechanized days when all of us, more or less, are ready to think ourselves the victims of vocational maladjustment, it is refreshing to find a man like E. H. Hughes, who occupies the chair of Animal Husbandry in the University of California. Mr. Hughes believes that 'animal husbandry is both a science and an art.' He is ready to defend his calling against all comers; and we like him for it. Last week, in an address before the American Society of Animal Production, Mr. Hughes refuted a slur upon his vocation by saying: 'Right or wrong, such opinions constitute a challenge that can be met fairly by training animal-husbandry students to promote and foster the animal industry, by an appreciation for research, for improvement in livestock production, for an appreciation of the complexity of the animal organism, for clear thinking and right living, and for an appreciation of philosophy, which is man's understanding of himself.' As a syllabus of the best that the State universities can offer to their students, this seems to us admirable; and we do not expect to see it bettered."

Cactus Uses ✓ Once a nuisance, the cactus has become man's servant. In Arizona its cultivation employs over a million acres. One visualizes the future southwestern desert as a succession of profitable cactus ranches. An article in The Michigan Manufacturer (Detroit) dwells particularly on the latest, and perhaps the most important, use. We read in this magazine: "The cactus plant of the Great American desert is the basis of a new and rapidly growing industry. More than 1,000,000 acres of Arizona sand waste are under cultivation, supplying a wide range of products important in manufacturing. These include drugs, soaps, cleaners, candy, boiler compound, and water softener. Manufacture of boiler compound is the latest commercial application of the desert plant. Cactus juice was introduced in this field about four years ago with remarkable success. It is now sold in twenty-one States and four Canadian provinces, and already the product is employed in a number of industrial operations. The value of the fluid, which is marketed under the trade name Cactizona, arises out of the peculiar property of the plant to suspend mineral matter in solution. A small quantity—one gallon in 10,000 gallons of feed water—is sufficient to purify a heating system badly clogged by scale and corrosion. It is used for cleaning rust from exposed castings, for killing algae growth in a city water supply, and for removing harmful minerals in steam employed in the manufacture of food preparations. The action of cactus juice is apparently one phase of an elementary law of nature which makes plant life possible. Vegetable juices make water sufficiently viscous to suspend mineral matter, and thus enable plants to grow. The Mississippi River has an enormous watershed extending through a dozen States rich in fertility. The river carries an annual load of many millions of cubic feet of mineral matter that settles in the lower reaches, causing floods and a river bottom that is continually rising. It is vegetable sap that causes this phenomenon. No two vegetable growths are quite alike in the property of altering the quality of water. Horse-chestnut juice can make water so resistant to surface change that a magnet will not move a needle floating on the mixture. Also, a little of this juice added to soapy water permits large bubbles to be blown. The Egyptians made bricks composed of clay mixed with water in which straw had been crushed. The straw was necessary because the clay could not be handled properly with plain water."



California An editorial in California Cultivator for January 24 says:
Fruit Growers "Unlike some of those engaged in other farming activities, who
Exchange seem to be under the impression that all they can do is to throw up
their hands and call for help, the citrus growers of this State, at
least that 77 per cent belonging to the California Fruit Growers Ex-
change, have taken time by the forelock, so to speak, and have appro-
priated an additional half million dollars to be used in advertising
the quantity, quality and cheapness of California oranges among the con-
suming trade. With the largest orange crop ever produced in this
State and a corresponding large crop in Florida, the citrus industry
faces an overproduction problem similar to that experienced by many of
our deciduous fruit growers last year but, being organized as it is,
it is able to do those things that will bring about the widest possible
distribution of its product, putting oranges in the hands of every po-
tential consumer of that fruit and thus, it is hoped, prevent the dis-
astrously low prices that usually prevail in seasons of overproduction.
Possibly the reason other fruit industries have not undertaken similar
campaigns to increase the consumption of their fruits is because of the
fact that none of them are so completely organized, cooperatively, as
are the citrus growers and therefore can not spend the money necessary
to put on such a campaign, nevertheless some of them might not be in
their present predicament had they started earlier in the game to cre-
ate a greater consumer demand for their products. This is one phase of
cooperative marketing that can not very well be undertaken unless some-
where near all the producers in an industry join hands, for its bene-
fits accrue to the whole industry while those only within the organiza-
tion pay its costs. The California Fruit Growers Exchange is to be
congratulated for its foresight in going out to meet the situation
rather than in waiting until it is upon them before taking action."

Trade Surveys William Pickett Helm is the author of "Forecasting the Trade
Winds" in World's Work for February. He says in part: "Sugar is only
one of many industries which are coming to rely on the sales special-
ist and his survey. Within the past decade the mechanics of merchan-
dising have undergone a sweeping change. Chain stores, perhaps, had
something to do with the new trend; but primarily it has been brought
about by scientific market-measuring undreamed-of fifteen or twenty
years ago. Back of the newer marketing method lies the extensive trade
survey. Manufacturers are asking, 'Wouldn't such an analysis be good
for my business?' and few would attempt to place new products on the
market to-day without making such a sounding. For extensive merchan-
dising nowadays is intimately tied up with national advertising. Be-
fore any product can overcome sales resistance, it is essential to lo-
cate and measure that resistance. If the product is sound and fit and
if the market is there, all well and good. If the preliminary survey
discloses otherwise, then it is better to know about it first than last.
As a result, there has sprung up in the country during the past decade
a new occupation, that of the trade reporter. His business it is to
ferret out the merchandising facts and markets for the products, actual
or contemplated, of American mines, mills, and factories. There are now
perhaps ten thousand men and women in the country who are continuously
engaged in making these trade surveys. Their work covers almost every
conceivable phase of merchandising and production...."

Wheat Study

The Wheat Study of the Food Research Institute for January surveys the situation from August to November, 1930. An abstract of the study follows: "Strikingly low and sharply declining international wheat prices featured the period under review. A moderately large world wheat crop (ex-Russia) was added to a heavy inward carryover; to these abundant supplies were added shipments from Russia of record size for post-war years; the disposition to carry the large wheat supplies in the Western World continued weak in the downward phase of the world trade cycle. The statistical position for the crop year 1930-31 is decidedly easy, though little reason appears to suggest that wheat supplies available to the western world are heavier than they were in 1928-29. Import requirements for 1930-31 seem to be moderately large, export surpluses decidedly large. The data now available suggest that the volume of international trade in wheat and flour in 1930-31 may approximate 825 million bushels. If so, year-end stocks will be heavy in Canada, Argentina, Australia, and the Danube Basin; the outcome in the United States depends chiefly upon the extent to which wheat will be fed to animals, but present indications do not suggest a reduction of stocks greater than 50 million bushels. Since it is difficult to see how selling pressure on the international wheat market can be evaded in the next three or four months, unless ex-European countries import heavily or unless the world trade cycle enters its rising phase, the immediate outlook hardly seems to favor sharply rising prices. The future course of world prices is of crucial significance to the governmental agencies which in the United States have held wheat prices above export parity since last November."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

The New York Herald Tribune for February 1 says: "At the suggestion of the Women's Division of the President's Emergency Committee for Employment, the Home Economics Bureau of the Department of Agriculture is offering a weekly food guide for the benefit of the many housewives who are faced with the problem of keeping house on a depleted budget. It is, of course, comparatively easy, given a comfortably filled purse and an unlimited supply of produce to choose from, to feed a family satisfactorily. But when the purse grows flat and drought or other disaster has cut down the supply of food products the matter does not take care of itself. Haphazard buying does not result so happily when basic foods are scarce or expensive, and the uninformed housekeeper is likely to fall into the habit of buying the cheapest foods available without consideration of their health properties. This is especially true in rural communities, where the garden and the cow have been the chief source of the table supply. When these have failed and unemployment has cut down the family income, a knowledge of what to buy in the market of village or town in order to give both child and adult the proteins, calories, vitamins and minerals that the chemistry of the body demands becomes more important. Important not only for the maintenance of the general health of each member of the family, but for the prevention of what are known as dietary deficiency diseases, such as rickets, scurvy and pellagra....These foods contain the required elements for nourishment, growth and health protection, and for the most part are staples the price of which do not fluctuate greatly throughout the country....Interested housewives are invited to write to the bureau for the menus and recipes for the low cost but attractive meals ^{that} have been worked out. Professional workers and

community groups who are aiding needy families or homeless persons are also invited to call on the bureau for aid in selecting and shopping around for the most economical, health producing foods required in their particular localities."

Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Feb. 4.—Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.25 to \$12.50; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$10; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$10; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$8.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.35 to \$7; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.70 to \$7.90; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$7.85 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8 to \$9; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $75\frac{3}{4}$ to $77\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 80 to $80\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Kansas City $68\frac{1}{2}$ to 69¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago $61\frac{1}{2}$ to 62¢; Minneapolis $53\frac{1}{2}$ to $55\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City $52\frac{1}{2}$ to 54¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago $62\frac{1}{4}$ to 64¢; Minneapolis $55\frac{1}{2}$ to $57\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 63 to $63\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City $55\frac{1}{2}$ to 57¢; No.3 white oats Chicago $32\frac{1}{4}$ to $32\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis $29\frac{1}{2}$ to $30\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis $33\frac{1}{2}$ to $33\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City $32\frac{1}{2}$ to 33¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.70-\$2 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.40-\$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions brought 85¢-\$1.25 per 100 pounds in the East; 50¢-75¢ in Chicago; mostly 50¢-55¢ f.o.b. West Michigan points. New York Danish type cabbage \$17-\$21 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$13-\$14 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.75-\$2 per western lettuce crates in city markets; 80¢-90¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Florida various varieties of strawberries 30¢-50¢ per quart in consuming centers; 27¢-28 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢ f.o.b. Plant City. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ -\$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; \$1.20-\$1.30 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 15 points to 9.75¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.57¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 14 points to 10.55¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 12 points to 10.57¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 27¢; 91 score, $26\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 26¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $17\frac{1}{2}$ to $18\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, $16\frac{3}{4}$ to $17\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, $17\frac{1}{2}$ to 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXX, No. 31

Section 1

February 6, 1931.

TARIFF CHANGES

President Hoover yesterday proclaimed five changes in the Smoot-Hawley tariff act rates, according to the press to-day. The report says: "He approved the first seven recommendations made to him by the new Tariff Commission. Four called for rate reductions on wood, flour, pigskin leather used in making bags and sporting goods, straw hats and maple sugar. The fifth sanctioned an increase in rates on woven wire fencing and netting. Rates on ultramarine blue and small rugs remain unchanged..."

RELIEF LEG- ISLATION

The press to-day says: "Republican and Democratic leaders of the Senate agreed yesterday on a compromise proposal on the \$25,000,000 relief dispute, which, if accepted by President Hoover, to whom it was submitted late in the day, would cause the Democrats to abandon their threats to filibuster and force an extra session of Congress. The proposition provides for an additional appropriation of \$25,000,000 for use in drought-stricken areas to be lent to farmers 'for crop production and farm rehabilitation.' The word 'food' to which the administration objected in the original \$25,000,000 proposal, is eliminated in the compromise plan. Senators are willing to accept the substitute language as being sufficiently broad to permit the use of the appropriation for the people's needs if necessary...."

RED CROSS RELIEF

With contributions to the Red Cross \$10,000,000 relief fund totaling \$6,198,623 yesterday, announcement was made at the national headquarters at Washington that local chapters were giving food, clothing and other forms of relief to persons in need in 735 counties in twenty States. (Press, Feb. 6.)

ARKANSAS RELIEF

A Little Rock dispatch to-day says: "Governor Parnell's signature was the only thing necessary last night for enactment of legislation which supporters claimed would make available immediately from \$12,000,000 to \$15,000,000 in loans to drought-stricken Arkansas farmers...."

ST. LAWRENCE CANAL

R. V. Oulahan says in to-day's New York Times: "As a result of the visit of Richard B. Bennett, Prime Minister of the Dominion of Canada, to Washington last week, steps are at last to be undertaken toward the construction of the St. Lawrence waterway which will provide a canal for ocean-going ships from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic, thus giving the western part of both countries direct communication with Europe without transshipping. The first formal move will be the appointment by the two governments of a joint commission which will undertake to straighten out several perplexing problems that must be adjusted preliminary to the negotiation of a treaty providing for the joint participation in this great project. The expectation is that the names of the American commissioners will be announced soon, perhaps as early as next week...."

Section 2

County
Govern-
ment

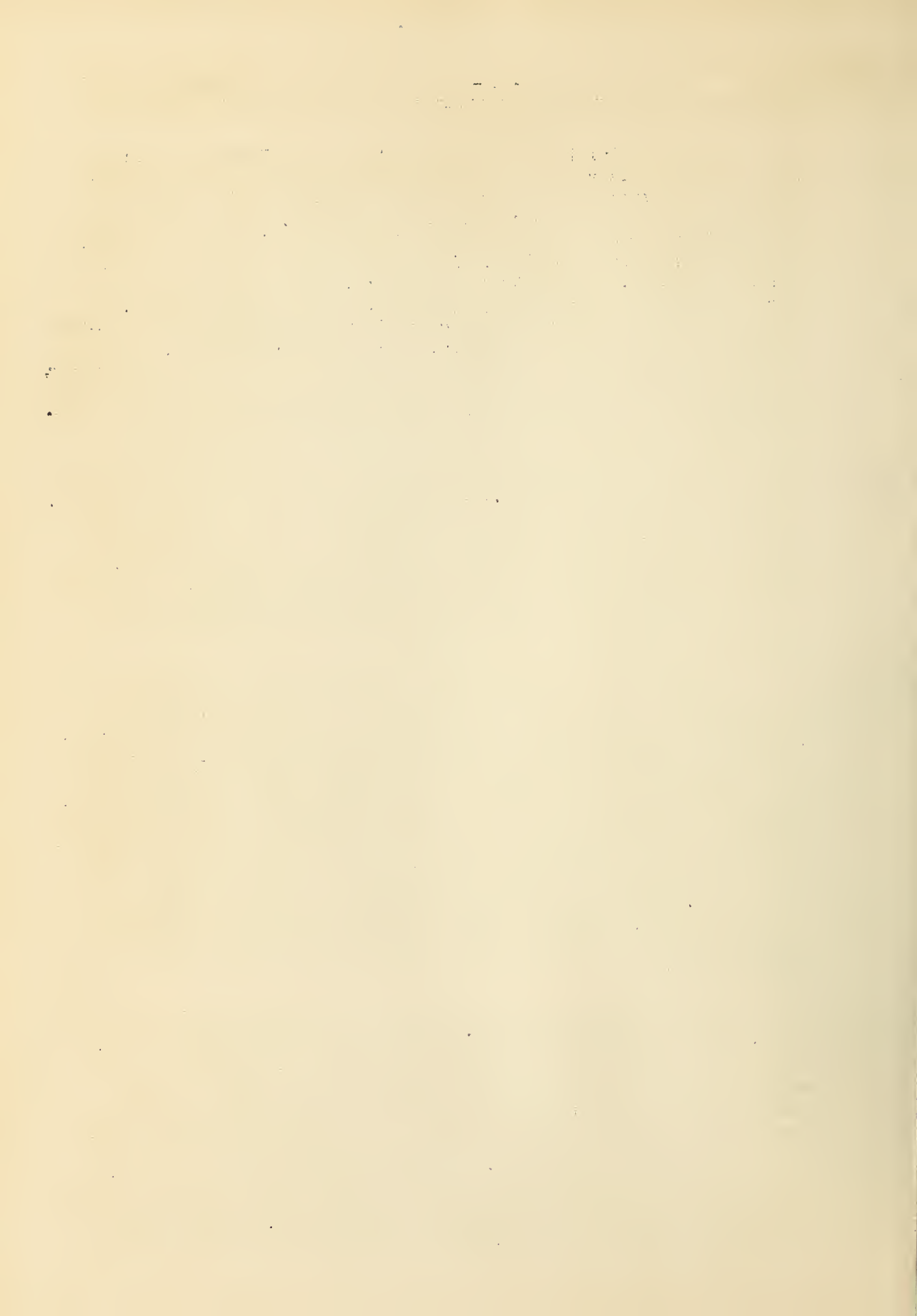
An editorial in The Country Gentleman for February says: "In a day when there is so much complaint about mounting public expenditures, it is strange that the reduction of administrative expense in county government does not receive more attention. Many of our States have fairly run riot in the creation of local administrative offices. The case of Indiana is typical. The Hoosier State has more than 1,000 township trustees, 276 county commissioners, 644 county councilmen to watch the county commissioners, 3,048 members of advisory boards, and besides, all the usual county officers--in all, an average of fifty-four officers to the county. In Indiana, as in many other States, the plan of county government was conceived in an era when it was thought democracy meant the division of power into many hands. It has been estimated by advocates of the shorter ballot that the administrative cost of county government in Indiana could be cut in half without impairing its efficiency. Whether or not this statement is too enthusiastic could be demonstrated only by experiment, but there is little doubt that a substantial saving could be made....The largest portion of local tax money, of course, is spent for schools and roads--items which can not be materially reduced without retarding the upswing of life. But administrative expense occupies an important place in all public budgets, and possible economies there are never to be dismissed lightly. The reform of county government is a matter that has been long neglected, but eventually the day arrives when every institution, no matter how well established, must answer for its worth."

Eastman to
Make Rayon

Entrance of the Eastman Kodak Company into the production on a large scale of cellulose acetate yarns for the textile trades was announced at New York February 4, according to the press of February 5. Through its subsidiary, the Tennessee Eastman Corporation, the company will begin immediate construction of an enlarged plant at Kingsport, Tenn., which will have a capacity of 2,500,000 pounds of yarn annually. The plant is expected to be in operation by October 1. The production will be distributed through the A. M. Tenney Associates of New York. In discussing the enlarged production, Mr. Tenney added that the Eastman Kodak Company is the oldest manufacturer of cellulose acetate in the country, having marketed this product since 1909 in the form of safety film base. During the past two years the research department of the company has been engaged in perfecting a cellulose acetate for textile yarns.

Government
Reserva-
tions

An editorial in American Forests for February says: "The day is coming," said President Hoover, as quoted in a recent number of Woman's Home Companion, 'when there is going to be a premium on solitude. If a man can find a piece of land anywhere in this country where he can't hear a bell ring or a whistle blow, that's the place he'll want for a home.' This sentiment is shared by many people who see in the movement to preserve some of our remaining wilderness areas a way of meeting an essential hunger of a vigorous race. One of the finest wilderness tracts left on the American continent is the region that borders the international waters in northern Minnesota and southern Ontario known as the 'Superior-Quetico Wilderness.'...To forestall crashing the solitude of the Superior wilderness with roads to carry



automobile loads of tourists into areas which should be kept sacred to hikers and canoeists, the Government must acquire title to the private lands in the designated wilderness area as rapidly as possible. This can be done by direct purchase under the Forest Purchase Act by which the Forest Service is authorized to buy private lands for national forest purposes; it may be accomplished under the authority granted the Forest Service to exchange forest lands or stumpage elsewhere for private land; or funds may be raised by public subscription and the lands deeded to the Government. Of these three methods, direct purchase by the Government as a part of its forest acquisition program is most logical. The private lands involved could be purchased with reasonable dispatch if Congress would increase the present appropriation for purchasing forest land. The American Forestry Association has long urged the importance of expanding this work in the eastern United States, and the Superior situation drives home with alarming force the importance of aroused public support."

Maize Industry in Kenya The African World for January 24 states that at an emergency session of the Legislature on January 17, the Government agreed to vote 108,000 pounds loan, free of interest, to the maize industry for a subsidy of 2s. per bag on exports, in order to insure a return to the grower of an amount sufficient to cover the costs of production. The loan will be repayable by an export cess when the export price reaches 7s. 3d. The loan will apply to all races of growers.

Master Homemakers An editorial in The Farmer and Farm, Stock and Home for January 31 says: "Ever since the Master Farmer movement was first inaugurated six years ago, the scores of farmers who have achieved this coveted honor have promptly given much of the credit for their success to the loyal assistance of their wives who have been partners in the business of making a living on the land. Any one conversant with conditions on the average farm will agree that this tribute is well-deserved. Without the assistance of a loyal wife the operation of a farm is an up-hill proposition. The important contribution that farm women everywhere are making to the success of farm life led to the establishment of the title of Master Farm Homemaker which has now been conferred on more than three hundred farm women living in all sections of the United States. Operating in cooperation with the Extension Divisions of the agricultural colleges in twenty-two different States The Farmer's Wife has been making an exhaustive study of successful home-making on the farm and since 1928 has singled out in each of these States each year, five representative farm women who have been deemed worthy of this recognition. Last week four farm women in Minnesota and five North Dakota homemakers were publicly honored during the annual short courses in these respective States. These recognitions are doing much to emphasize the important place occupied by farm women in building a greater and a more satisfying agriculture. There is no greater public honor than these recognitions for achievement on the farm and in the farm home. They add a deserved dignity to farm life."

Surpluses

Julius H. Barnes, chairman of the board, U. S. Chamber of Commerce, writes under the title "Abundance Bugged Down" in World's Work for February. He says in part: "Surpluses, disconcerting as they might be momentarily, are, after all, evidence of vigor, rather than decay. There are large sections of the world's population that must go far to approach the standard of living set in the United States. If the wage earners of Europe were to enjoy the same comforts as does the wage earner of the United States, the present commodity abundance would be converted into a scarcity. If Europe's 400,000,000 people were to consume milk and butter and eggs in the same measure as they are consumed in the United States, the need of pasturage for dairy herds would of necessity, absorb the acreage devoted to raising cereals which can be more economically obtained from other countries, and the grain surpluses of Canada, Argentina, Australia, and the United States, as well as Russia, would be readily absorbed. In the same way, if the average European home were to be equipped with electrical devices as in the United States, where there are sixty million refrigerators, vacuum cleaners, and radio sets, and supplied with electric current for power and light, accumulated supplies of copper, tin, and zinc would promptly disappear. Depressions have followed marked advances in production before. Distressing unemployment, marked by destructive riots in which machines were smashed, ushered in the machine age in England; but what appeared to be an overwhelming abundance then would supply only a modicum of to-day's needs. Surpluses may temporarily throw industry off its stride, but they are a step forward, not backward. They are a warning signal not that the world is producing too much but that it is distributing too little; that business must not retrace its course but square away on a new tack."

Wheat
Acreage

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for January 24 says: "John I. McFarland, new manager of the Canadian Wheat Pool and one of the best informed grain men in the world, says there must be a proportionate reduction in acreage among the wheat producing countries of the world. That dictum comes as a last resort to the farmers in a country where wheat is the principal crop, and possibly the only crop some of them can grow....The wheat grower in Canada, the sugar grower in Cuba, the wheat grower in some parts of the United States asks 'What shall I do? My investment is the same and my taxes are no lower on the idle acres.' Obviously the answer is that those farmers are out of business anyhow if they continue to produce at a loss. But there is another answer: It is the factory answer. Men having large investments in factories and skilled workers do not look complacently upon reduced production. It means idle men and machines while taxes and much overhead expense goes on. But they do it rather than to continually produce at a loss. Fortunately reduced acreage in wheat in this country does not mean idle acres except in a few sections, and even in those sections reduction may come on the same theory that a specialty manufacturer cuts down production to profitable demand. It's the old, old law and piling up surpluses only aggravates instead of answers it. After all there is a time when those idle acres, if any, will be profitable if their productiveness is conserved against the time of need."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Feb. 5.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.25 to \$12.50; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$10; vealers, good and choice \$8 to \$10; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$8.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.45 to \$7.10; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.80 to \$8; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$8 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$7.75 to \$8.85; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.

Grain:: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 73 $\frac{5}{8}$ to 77 $\frac{5}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter St. Louis 80 to 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 79¢; Kansas City 69 to 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 62 to 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 53 to 55¢; Kansas City 53 to 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 61 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 63 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Minneapolis 55 to 57¢; St. Louis 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 63¢; Kansas City 55 to 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 32 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 33¢; Minneapolis 29 $\frac{3}{8}$ to 29 $\frac{7}{8}$ ¢; St. Louis 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 35¢; Kansas City 34 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.70-\$2 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.45 carlot sales in Chicago; few \$1.10-\$1.15 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions brought 80¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 50¢-75¢ in Chicago and 55¢-70¢ f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage \$17-\$20 bulk per ton in terminal markets; Texas Round type \$1.75-\$2 per western lettuce crate in city markets; 80¢-85¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Florida various varieties of strawberries 30¢-40¢ per quart in eastern cities; 24¢-33¢ f.o.b. Plant City. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, closed at \$1-\$1.37 $\frac{1}{2}$; McIntosh \$1.50-\$1.75 and Baldwins \$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins \$1.50 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 13 points to 9.88¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.17¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 14 points to 10.69¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 13 points to 10.70¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 27¢; 91 score, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 26¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)



DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXX, No. 32

Section 1

February 7, 1931.

RELIEF FUND AGREEMENT

The press to-day says: "An agreement acceptable to both President Hoover and Democratic and Insurgent Republican Senators, ending the deadlock over relief legislation and accepted as practically averting an extra session of Congress, was reached yesterday. By the terms of this compromise the Senate will give up its insistence on the appropriation of \$25,000,000 for food for sufferers in the drought areas and for the unemployed, now attached to the Interior Department bill, and accept an appropriation of \$20,000,000, to be added to the \$45,000,000 already allotted to farmers in the drought area.

"The added \$20,000,000 is specifically for 'farm rehabilitation'.... However, designation of the purposes for which the fund can be utilized beyond those set forth in the agreement as it now stands, will rest with Secretary Hyde of the Department of Agriculture...."

RED CROSS RELIEF

Contributions to the Red Cross drought relief funds yesterday totaled \$6,511,971, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The Red Cross has sent fifteen more carloads of food to the drought districts. Six cars of mixed produce, flour and grain came from Colorado; one car of grain from Kansas; three cars of produce and grains from Iowa; one car of rice from Texas, and four cars of miscellaneous foodstuffs from Wyoming."

RUBBER FROM SAGE BRUSH

A Salinas, Calif., dispatch to-day states that rubber production from sage brush on a commercial basis has begun at Spence Switch, seven miles south of Salinas. The American Rubber Producers, subsidiary of the Inter-Continental Rubber Company, Inc., has constructed a plant costing \$150,000, according to the report, which says further: "George H. Carnahan, president of the Inter-Continental Company, demonstrated the product to a group of newspaper men. He said the plant is producing 15,000 pounds of rubber daily from a domesticated form of sage brush called guayule. The rubber thus produced, Mr. Carnahan said, is not synthetic rubber or a substitute for rubber. It is rubber, he asserts, and serves every purpose of rubber..."

PORTUGUESE ASK FARM RELIEF

A Lisbon, Portugal, dispatch to-day says: "Replying to resolutions of the National Agricultural Association that the government take steps to aid the plight of its members, Col. Linares Lima, Minister of Agriculture, yesterday said the economic depression and unemployment were engaging the earnest attention of the government. The Minister added, however, that the condition of the farmers was due to causes over which the government had no control. He pointed out that the same condition confronted other nations where millions of persons are unemployed. The association had asked that the government prohibit the annual importation of \$2,000,000 worth of wheat; that Portugal trade with countries buying the nation's products and that France be asked to modify the law forbidding the importation of low-grade wines."

Section 2

Coolidge on Calvin Coolidge in his press talk yesterday said: "The problem of agriculture in recent years has seemed so much the disposition of surplus production that very little public thought has been given to soil exhaustion. Yet authentic reports tell us that each year about five and three-fourths millions more pounds of plant food are taken from the soil than are returned to it. That means a serious depletion of capital. The immediate effect is the increase of acreage to maintain production. That increases the unit cost. When the harvest comes it is found the expense of raising the crop is so large that the profit is diminished. A one-crop system is mostly responsible for this condition. With diversification and animal husbandry the problem can be partly solved. But investigation has also shown that a wise use of fertilizers increases the yield, reduces the cost of cultivation per unit and so increases the profit. The farm ought to be primarily a self-sustaining home with its own food supply. In trying to make it so by diversification, by needful fertilization and a wiser financing the Farm Board is proposing a sound fundamental remedy for that part of agriculture entitled to public encouragement and support."

Costa Rican On September 4, 1930, President Gonzalez Viquez issued a Banana decree approved by congress August 30, 1930, imposing an export tax Law of 2 cents gold on every stem of bananas shipped from the country until 1950. The decree guarantees that during this 20-year period no other national or municipal tax of any kind, under any guiso, shall be imposed on the banana industry. Half the revenue thus obtained will be spent in such public works as the canalization of Lakes Tortuguero and Colorado port works at Moin, the construction of the railroad to Guanacaste, and in the promotion of agricultural colonies at Pococi. On the same date a contract between the government and a foreign fruit company was decreed by the president after approval by congress, according to the terms of which the company must cultivate at least 3,000 additional hectares of bananas, while the government agrees to provide port facilities both on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts for the exportation of the fruit. Provision for the transportation of the fruit to the ports is also included. (La Gaceta, San Jose, September 6, 1930.)

New England An editorial in New England Homestead for January 31 says: Produce "We have been hearing much about overproduction of many agricultural commodities pulling down prices which meant losses to farmers. But other factors must be at work, especially here in New England. Our fruit and vegetable growers complained the past season about glutted markets and resulting disastrous prices. Yet farmers in distant States sold huge quantities of both vegetables and fruits right under our noses, paying long transportation charges, commissions, and in some instances sizeable advertising and cooperative fees. A recent survey by the Rhode Island bureau of markets discloses that Providence alone last year imported 8,361 carloads of fruits and vegetables against 8,726 in 1929. And do not think this was something which can not be produced in Rhode Island or New England. There were 262 cars of cabbage, 406 cars tomatoes, 340 cars lettuce, mostly from California, 151 cars carrots, 160 cars spinach, 121 cars peaches and 225 cars apples.

Providence received 538 cars of eggs from 26 different States; also 2,056 cars potatoes, not to mention 1,721 cars of milk--fortunately the potatoes mostly from Maine and milk from Vermont. However, great quantities of cream came in from the Middle West and as far South as North Carolina and Tennessee...."

Nursery Inspection Law of Minnesota An editorial in The Farmer and Farm, Stock and Home for January 24 says: "A much needed amendment to the nursery inspection law of Minnesota is being introduced in the legislature now in session. Heretofore nursery inspection has been confined to insect pests and plant diseases. Such inspection, of course, is highly important, but the existing law left out of consideration prevention of certain abuses in the nursery industry. The proposed amendment provides that 'all nursery stock sold or offered for sale shall be in sound, healthy condition and shall be stored or displayed under conditions which will maintain its vigor. Nursery stock which is dead or so seriously weakened by drying, excessive heat or cold, or any other condition that in the judgment of the State inspector of nurseries or his deputy it will be unable to grow with normal vigor when given reasonable care shall not be sold or offered for sale.' This amendment strikes at those growers and dealers who either knowingly or carelessly offer stock for sale that is in such condition that it can not possibly grow or thrive. The Minnesota law is being further amended so as to provide for the licensing of dealers in nursery stock. This strikes principally at those who set up temporary establishments in the larger cities just before and during the spring planting season. There has been no control of such dealers heretofore as a result of which they have been able to palm off most anything on an unsuspecting public. Offenders can be promptly put out of business by cancellation of their licenses. This amendment ought to pass. It has the support of the best nurserymen in the State."

Population Moves The Farm Journal for January says: "It is curious and interesting to note the shifting of the population within the country, as the 1930 Census shows it up. What were the sections that gained population the fastest, in the last ten years? The New York City area, of course. The Detroit-Chicago area--automobiles and industry. Florida--climate and the land boom. Texas--new crops, new industries, new oil fields. Southern California--climate, oranges, Hollywood, and unbounded energy in telling about them. And another thing--note that these areas are all on the fringes of the country. Each one touches the ocean, or some deep waterway. It may be a coincidence, or it may be just another indication of the handicap under which the inland valleys apparently must labor."

Tuberculosis Laws An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for January 24 says: "Michigan has recently completed animal tuberculosis tests whereby the entire State has been declared a clean area. The entire State of Ohio will be accredited within the next year. Iowa, Illinois and Indiana are working under state-wide laws and will all be accredited within a reasonably short time. At a meeting held at Lansing, Michigan, September 19, 1930, in celebration of the completion of the work in that State, a conference was held with representatives present from the

various States that are deeply interested in eliminating bovine tuberculosis. The following resolution was passed unanimously: 'It is recommended that as soon as deemed advisable by the State officials in charge, and in no instance later than the date upon which an entire State is declared a modified accredited area, regulations or legislation be made effective to require that all cattle entering the State affected, or any of the counties or townships thereof, except cattle for immediate slaughter, be properly and satisfactorily identified as having originated in modified accredited areas, or be subject to an approved tuberculin test prior to such entrance.' There is little doubt that Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and other States will follow the suggestions as outlined in the Michigan resolution. The above named four States furnish the best market we have for Nebraska feeder cattle and it will be a very serious condition if these States should have their laws or rules and regulations changed before Nebraska has fully cleaned up tuberculosis...."

Virginia
Public
Works
Fund

The press of February 5 states that at the urgent request of Senators Claude A. Swanson and Carter Glass, of Virginia, followed by a request from Gov. John Garland Pollard, Secretary of the Interior Wilbur February 4 agreed to allocate to drought-stricken Virginia \$500,000 of the \$1,500,000 appropriated for construction of roads and trails in national parks and monuments under the emergency public works act for construction of roads. The report says: "Half these funds will be used for a road through Shenandoah National Park, from Panorama to Skyland, thence to intersect with the Rapidan Valley road. The other half of the funds will be expended in beginning the Colonial National Monument Parkway connecting Yorktown and Williamsburg, along the York River."

Vitamins

An editorial in The Farm Journal for February says: "Admitting that nobody knows--and when we say nobody we mean nobody--how to cure all colds, it still appears likely to us that we are getting a little nearer the answer than we used to be. Maybe an abundance of vitamins in what we eat, and particularly Vitamin A and Vitamin D, won't prevent a cold or cure it. We don't say they will. We do say for you to make sure that your diet has plenty of A and D in it, and then if you catch cold it must be something else wrong...."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Feb. 6.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9.25 to \$12.50; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$10; vealers, good and choice \$8.50 to \$10.50; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7. to \$8.75; heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$7.15; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.90 to \$8.10; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$8 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: \$8 to \$9, lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down); feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 73 $\frac{5}{8}$ to 77 $\frac{5}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter wheat St. Louis 80 to 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.2 hard winter Chicago 78 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 79¢; Kansas City 69 to 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn Chicago 62 to 64¢; Minneapolis 53 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 53 to 54 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow corn Chicago 62 to 64 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 63 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats Chicago 32 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 29 $\frac{3}{8}$ to 29 $\frac{7}{8}$ ¢; St. Louis 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 34 to 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.70-\$2 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$1.40 carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1.10 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions 85¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 50¢-55¢ f.o.b. West Michigan points. New York Danish type cabbage \$18-\$20 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.75-\$2 per western lettuce crate in city markets; 75¢-85¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Delaware and Maryland Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.50-\$2.35 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.25-\$1.35 in the Middle West; top of \$1.60 in Kansas City. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches up \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; Baldwins mostly \$1.50 f.o.b. Rochester.

The average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 1 point to 9.87¢ per lb. On the same day one year ago the price was 14.67¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 4 points to 10.65¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 7 points to 10.63¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 27¢; 91 score, 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 26¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Single Daisies, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 18¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXX, No. 33

Section 1

February 9, 1931.

THE DROUGHT LOAN

Following the formal agreement by the House and Senate conferees, the compromise drought relief measure carrying an appropriation of an additional \$20,000,000 for loans to farmers, was reported favorably on Saturday to the Senate, according to the press of

February 8.

The press to-day says: "The outlook for plain sailing for the compromise agreed on yesterday by President Hoover and Democratic leaders in the Senate, whereby \$20,000,000 would be lent to farmers in the drought area for 'rehabilitation,' was dimmer last night and fears are being expressed that the rosy hopes, first engendered by the agreement of a definite barrier against an extra session, were premature. This situation is due to study by Democrats and insurgent Republicans of Secretary Hyde's statement of yesterday that under the terms of the amendment, the \$20,000,000 for 'farm rehabilitation' loans added to the \$45,000,000 already appropriated for seed, fertilizer and livestock feed, could not be applied directly to the purchase of food for human beings...."

BONUS COM- PROMISE

The press to-day says: "The hope among supporters of some form of cash bonus payments that legislation to that end acceptable to the administration would be adopted at the present session of Congress received a setback on Saturday night, when Secretary Mellon issued a brief statement declaring that no compromise proposal acceptable to the Treasury had been submitted...."

RED CROSS FUND

The total contributions to the Red Cross relief fund amounted to \$6,787,720 Saturday and Red Cross officials were confident that the \$10,000,000 goal will be realized within a short time, according to the press to-day.

WILL ROGERS' DROUGHT AID

A Tulsa, Okla., dispatch to-day says: "Thanks to Will Rogers and his salable wisecracks, the 'folks back home' in his native Oklahoma have about \$90,000 with which to relieve suffering from the drought and unemployment....His performances in Oklahoma

have swollen the total of his charity chest for the Southwest to \$172,000, Texans having paid \$82,000 to hear him the week before. Appearances in Arkansas are next on his schedule. The entire proceeds of the entertainments are given to charity. ..."

BUSINESS STABILIZATION STUDY

A committee of business executives and economists representing "key" industries will be named by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States to discuss a program to assure virtually continuous employment to workers throughout the year, and prevent, if possible, the recurrence of major industrial depressions, according to an announcement made yesterday by Julius H. Barnes, chairman of the board of the national chamber. (Press, Feb. 9.)

Section 2

Business
Outlook

Definite gains in industrial activity are now beginning to appear, the American Bankers Association Journal declares in its monthly review of business to-day. "Steel production increased from 25 per cent of capacity at the end of December to 50 per cent at the start of February," the journal says. "Automobile output is being expanded conservatively and some authorities believe the forecasts of 4,000,000 vehicles in 1931 are too low. The building program is not expected to exceed 1930, but will be better balanced. A number of industries are now speeding up after taking their price cuts, such as shoes, rubber tires and the textiles. Others are steadily strengthening their position through adherence to curtailment, such as copper mining, petroleum, sugar and paper. In financial circles there is a distinctly better feeling, based on the moderate rise in the stock market, the ease of interest rates, further liquidation of loans and evidence that rural bank failures have passed the epidemic stage. Resources of the Federal Reserve System are practically untouched, whereas following the 1921 depression member banks were borrowing more than \$2,000,000,000. Bond prices have made a marked recovery, and the character of new issues in 1930 and 1931 shows that the number given high 'ratings' is double that in 1929. Savings deposits have enjoyed a notable increase during recent months, and year-end statements of the finance companies show that instalment credit has weathered the storm in excellent fashion..."

California
Water
Supply

An editorial in California Cultivator for January 31 says: "With each succeeding dry year, Southern California's water problems become more acute. Overdrawing, as it is, upon its underground reserve each year, it is only a question of time until this reserve will be completely exhausted. Such a condition is inevitable, unless the long looked for series of wet winters come soon to replenish the underground supply, or water for both irrigation and domestic purposes is brought in from some other sources. Even though all legal entanglements were cleared away and work started on the Hoover Dam tomorrow, Southern California is likely to suffer a serious water shortage unless we soon get some of our old-time wet winters, together with early and heavy snowfall on our watersheds. Therefore, it behooves all of us to put into practice every method whereby the present supply can be conserved and made to go as far as possible. Instead of dumping their sewage into the sea, every city in Southern California should be devising ways of rectifying same and pumping it either to adjacent agricultural lands or to higher areas where it will augment the rapidly diminishing underground supply where it can be picked up and used over again. Without doubt there is also much room for improvement in our irrigation practices. Where water is at all plentiful many farmers and orchardists are using more than is necessary for best results, and even where it is not so plentiful orchardists are in many instances not making the most economical use of their irrigation waters. We believe that a more general use of soil augers by orchardists would do much to bring about a more economic^a use of water in orchard irrigation...."

Commodity
Prices and
Wages

An editorial in The Nebraska Farmer for January 31 says: "A friend of ours bought the woolen cloth for a suit of clothes at the wholesale price. To have the cloth made into a suit cost six times the cost of the cloth. The value of the wheat in a loaf of bread is about one-eighth the cost of the loaf delivered. In fact the cost of delivery alone represents nearly one-half of the cost of the loaf. A manufacturer of farm machinery pointed out that his concern mines the ore and coal and makes the coke that goes into the steel for their implements. Yet 80 per cent of the wholesale price of the manufactured article on the shipping platform could be traced directly to somebody's pay envelope. A few years ago, accounting studies were made which showed that labor represents from 75 per cent to 80 per cent of the cost of all manufactured articles and transportation services. In view of these facts, the question naturally arises, how can commodity prices be lowered without lowering wages. Out of the 20 per cent or 25 per cent above the cost of wages must come taxes and certain other fixed overhead charges plus dividends or interest on the investment, so any reduction there would be relatively unimportant in lowering the wholesale or retail price....Industry--and that certainly includes farming--must be profitable if labor is to be employed. Therefore, any adjustment that takes place must be applicable along the entire line. In view of obligations incurred when the purchasing value of the dollar was higher, it is desirable that commodity prices should be kept on as high a level as is practicably consistent with maximum consumption.... Our problem in bringing about a fair adjustment may be that we are prone to get the cart before the horse--that is, we must consider first the cost of producing a thing, including 75 per cent to 80 per cent for labor, before we can determine what would be a fair price for the raw or finished commodity."

Drug Adver-
tising
Legisla-
tion

An editorial in Medical Journal and Record for February 4 says: "Senator Copeland has introduced a bill relative to false and deceptive advertising of drugs. His purpose in the introduction of this bill was to include drugs which were used for other than therapeutic purposes, as the present National Food and Drug Act does not include these preparations. Dr. S. Dana Hubbard of the New York City Department of Health, is especially interested in having wide publicity given this bill, which we consider of great importance. We feel that measures of this kind are a protection to the public, as well as to the manufactures of legitimate preparations, and we are of the belief that the medical profession as well as the various manufacturers of pharmaceuticals should do all they can to promote the passage of this bill....To many of our readers it may seem that we are burdened with too many laws and commissions, but we must admit that certain basic laws which have been enacted undoubtedly have protected the public from unscrupulous manufacturers, or even from some who were earnest, honest, but misled, and which have served a definite purpose in protecting the lives and health of the members of our community...."

Ford Plans
Brazilian
Town

A Para dispatch February 7 states that a distinctly new plan having direct effect upon the policy now in force at the Ford rubber plantation at Boa Vista, together with a change in the method of local management, has just been made known. The announcement came with the

arrival by airplane in Para February 6 of a party of Ford Motor Company officials from the United States. The report says: "Those arriving include W. E. Carnegie, chief of the company's accounting department, at Dearborn, Mich., and V. J. Perini, manager of the company's plant at Iron Mountain, Mich., both of whom have made earlier visits to this district. Their present mission is in an advisory capacity....There is a determination on the part of the company to gradually evolve a plan by which the plantation, apart from that portion of it necessary to planting and for operation, will become a self-maintained and self-governed municipality," Mr. Carnegie said..."

Living Memorials

An editorial in The Country Gentleman for February says: "Soon will appear the toy hatchets and cherry colored and flavored candy balls, perennial reminders of Washington's Birthday. To the very young, who will submit to history if it swells the visible supply of candy, these holiday trimmings are a joy. But to the rest of us supereducated citizenry the business has a hollow ring. Eminent historians have debunked the cherry-tree story with devastating efficiency and left us nothing in its place as a popular symbol for the Father of his Country. The situation has been acute. The American Tree Association, with the two hundredth anniversary of Washington's birth at hand in 1932, has solved the problem. The association has found, not a substitute, but the ideal symbol for our first President, his character and his deeds. Washington was a foremost agriculturist of his time. Before the Revolution his interests were centered in fruitful management of the many acres he controlled. He recognized the beauty and value of growing things--among them, trees. In recognition of this the association proposes that individuals, organizations, communities and whole States plant trees in his memory, and that they be dedicated on February twenty-second of next year. Already thousands of trees have been planted, and millions will be set out in proper season during the coming year. It is hoped that 10,000,000 trees will be dedicated in 1932, with fitting exercises and certification, for which the association has arranged. What finer tribute to and symbol of Washington's name than this?...The American Tree Association is cooperating with the George Washington Bicentennial Commission in this work. It will be only a part of the great national celebration that is planned for 1932, but it should result in the most lasting and worthwhile tribute ever paid a great man's imperishable memory."

Potato Futures

Food Distribution for February says: "Thirty-five car loads of potatoes were sold during the first hour of trade on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange floor on January 12, when trading opened in the first futures potato market in the world. As the fog-horn voice of the announcer rang out over the trading floor, filled with butter, egg and potato men, the chief activity of the morning seemed to center about the potato board. Trade opened with Idaho Russets selling at \$1.95 per hundred lbs. Prices advanced to \$2 and then dropped back to a final closing of \$1.92, with 55 cars recorded on the first day's trade. Evidence that the experiment was being watched by outside interests was apparent. A number of dealers reported they executed orders for buyers and sellers in Idaho cities. There is a special significance in the placing of this commodity on a futures market. Without a doubt it will open the way for trading in futures of a large variety of semiperishable products. Already preliminary work has been done on canned goods, peanuts and boxed apples, preparatory to placing them on a futures market, according to Manager Lloyd S. Tenney....."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Feb. 7.—Livestock: Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.); good and choice \$6.50 to \$7.15; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$7.90; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations) \$7 to \$7.75.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $73\frac{1}{2}\phi$ to $77\frac{1}{2}\phi$; No.2 red winter, St. Louis 80ϕ to $80\frac{1}{2}\phi$; No.2 hard winter, Kansas City 69ϕ to $69\frac{1}{2}\phi$; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago $62\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Minneapolis $54\frac{1}{2}\phi$ to $55\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Kansas City 53ϕ to $54\frac{1}{2}\phi$; No.3 yellow, Chicago $63\frac{1}{2}$ to $63\frac{3}{4}\phi$; Minneapolis $55\frac{1}{2}$ to $58\frac{1}{2}\phi$; St. Louis $62\frac{1}{2}$ to 63ϕ ; Kansas City 56ϕ to 58ϕ ; No.3 white oats, Chicago 32ϕ ; Minneapolis $29\frac{1}{2}\phi$ to 30ϕ ; Kansas City 35ϕ .

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.70-\$2 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$1.40 carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1.10-\$1.12 $\frac{1}{2}$ f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow onions brought 80ϕ -\$1.15 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 50ϕ - 75ϕ in Chicago and 65ϕ - 80ϕ f.o.b. Rochester, New York. Florida various varieties of strawberries 37ϕ - 42ϕ per quart in city markets; mostly 26ϕ - 28ϕ f.o.b. Plant City. New York Danish type cabbage \$18-\$22 bulk per ton in terminal markets; mostly \$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.50-\$1.75 per western lettuce crate in city markets; 75ϕ - 85ϕ f.o.b. Lower Valley points.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 2 points to 9.85 ϕ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 14.82 ϕ . March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 4 points to 10.61 ϕ , and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 1 point to 10.64 ϕ .

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 27 ϕ ; 91 score, $26\frac{1}{2}\phi$; 90 score, 26 ϕ .

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $17\frac{1}{2}$ to $18\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Single Daisies, $16\frac{1}{2}$ to $17\frac{1}{4}\phi$; Young Americas, $17\frac{1}{2}$ to 18ϕ . (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXX, No. 34

Section 1

February 10, 1931

FARM RELIEF LEGISLATION

The Associated Press to-day says: "Adoption of the drought-loan agreement was vigorously urged in the Senate yesterday by Democratic Leader Robinson, with the assurance of President Hoover of a sympathetic administration of the \$20,000,000 fund. Pleading that prompt action was imperative if relief is to be in time, Senator Robinson upheld the agreement through a round of questioning by members on both sides of the aisle...."

MISSOURI HOUSE PASSES RELIEF BILL

A Jefferson City, Mo., dispatch to-day states that the lower House of the Legislature unanimously passed yesterday the Senate bill for a \$250,000 State relief fund to aid persons suffering from the drought and business depression. The measure was amended slightly, however, and must go back to the Senate.

EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

A widely varying trend of employment throughout the country, with dissimilar conditions in geographical divisions, was reflected in reports to the Emergency Committee for Employment, from its seven field representatives, made public yesterday by Col. Arthur Woods, the chairman, according to the press to-day. The press report says: "While reports from Massachusetts and Vermont represented conditions there as somewhat improved, there was a further decrease in the average number of wage-earners in more than 800 factories of New Jersey. Unemployment in California was pictured as 'still serious with slight increased hopefulness' while Alabama reported a 'much more optimistic tone.' Colonel Woods said it was largely on a report by Captain James Lucey, in charge of the mid-Western drought States, that President Hoover had sent out special men to investigate conditions there....."

RED CROSS RELIEF

The press to-day reports that Washington last night led the country in quota subscriptions to the Red Cross drought-relief fund, its allotment of \$100,000 having been fully subscribed through a joint arrangement with the Community Chest. Nation-wide contributions to the \$10,000,000 fund have reached \$7,052,977, the American Red Cross announced. New York was within \$21,000 of its \$1,500,000 quota, ranking next to Washington in percentage showing of cities having more than 500,000 population.

INDEPENDENT OFFICES BILL

The \$1,053,000,000 independent offices appropriation bill, carrying \$100,000,000 for the revolving fund of the Farm Board, was passed by the Senate yesterday, according to the press to-day.

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

The New York Times to-day reports: "With the speculative attitude sharply reversed in response to a pervasive optimism, the stock market rose with a flourish yesterday in the heaviest trading in two months.

Section 2

British
Cotton

The Business Week for February 11 says: "Britain is more worried over Lancashire textile strikes than most politicians are willing to admit. Despite a Socialist government, the 250,000 weavers locked out get little sympathy from government officials, and public sympathy is unreservedly with the employers. Briefly, the problem is one of rationalization within the industry. The bulk of the Lancashire cotton industry has been working on the 4-loom-per man basis. In the Burnley area, employers have been experimenting with the 'more-loom-per-worker' system on a special agreement with the unions. After 2 years of experiments, it was found feasible to ask one operator to tend 8 looms instead of 4. Operators made no objection as far as the work was concerted but the unions are afraid of the immediate unemployment the change would make. Employers declare it will enable Britain to lower production costs to the point where the country can regain markets lost, particularly to the Japanese. The position of general business was reflected in the recent meeting of 300 executives of Britain's larger industries. At this meeting it was agreed that mechanization is Britain's only hope to recover her position in the world markets. It was further admitted that the country's industries are behind the standard of the United States..."

Canadian
Farm
Prices

An editorial in Ontario Farmer for February says: "In every period of depressed prices farm products are the first to suffer, largely because they represent raw materials over which it is impossible to exercise any quick check in production. Farmers can not close down their operations until a surplus has been used, and for a time there is a serious discrepancy between what the farmer receives for his products and what he pays for the things he buys. Later there is an adjustment all along the line that brings the two price levels more nearly together again. Such an adjustment is taking place at present but started many months after farm prices commenced their downward move in 1929. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics estimates that farm product prices have dropped 38.6 per cent since August 1929 compared with a drop in general wholesale prices of 18.9 per cent, or more than double. If the drop in wholesale prices continues the purchasing power of farm products will be relatively higher this year than last. Furthermore as they were the first to fall, they will also be the first to show an increase if conditions improve as a number of leading economists declare they will during the present year."

Cane-Har-
vesting
Machines

A Clewiston, Fla., dispatch to the press of February 8 says: "Fifteen sugar cane harvesting machines, the first ever used commercially, have begun harvesting \$4,000,000 worth of sugar cane from 20,000 acres of rich, black Everglade muckland. Each of these machines, mounted on endless treads like army tanks, is able to do as much work in one day as was done by 200 cane cutters with the traditional hand machete. The machine, invented by Ralph S. Falkiner, of Australia, is expected to revolutionize the sugar cane industry in this country, according to growers and manufacturers who have been watching its work here. It is the result of 19 years' experimentation."

Frozen
Foods Asso-
ciation

"An association of those interested in quick freezing and cold packing of foods was formed at a meeting at Atlanta, Ga., on January 17. It is to be known as the Frozen Food Association of America, and is to include food manufacturers and dealers in frozen foods, as well

as commercial refrigeration interests, scientists, container and package companies, insulating materials companies, and all others directly interested in promotion of a national trade in frozen food products. This meeting arose largely out of the enthusiasm of the peach-freezing and citrus-freezing industries of Georgia and Florida. Invitations were extended throughout the United States and a number of the commercial interests, including refrigeration, railroad and package companies from the Northern States were represented. More than half those attending were from the Southern States....The enthusiasm of the southern group called for immediate action in organizing a national association....It was decided to form a national organization, but to leave it in such elastic form that the major frozen food interests of other parts of the United States could be given a good share of control by extension of the list of executive officers. This association was, therefore, to be considered as the nucleus of a national organization which might be later assembled...." (Food Distribution, February.)

Guatemala
and El
Salvador
Agricul-
ture

C. H. Logan, writing on "Modernizing Agriculture in Guatemala and El Salvador" in January Bulletin of The Pan American Union, says in part: "The country of Guatemala is rich and beautiful. With its fascinating historical background, its excellent climate in the highlands, its lakes and mountains that provide inexhaustible variety of scenery, Guatemala needs only the more extensive use of modern machinery in agriculture and highway construction to make it self-supporting in any emergency and a still greater delight to any one visiting it as a tourist or remaining as a resident. Much has already been accomplished. Tractors, plows, and disk harrows, subsoilers, corn planters and huskers, rotary hoes and ditching implements, although their use was formerly considered bad practice or impossible, have been successfully introduced, and are now being utilized in the cultivation of corn, rice, beans, sugar-cane, and occasionally of coffee, in the mahogany forests, and on railroad construction. In all departments the people are becoming more inclined to adopt modern methods and to use power machinery wherever practicable, as the only way to maintain and develop the economic life of the country. It is interesting to note that in growing corn on the coast the ground must not be plowed deeply, since deep cultivation, because of the rich soil, makes the corn run entirely to stalk. In the highlands, however, subsoiling is needed. The country of El Salvador is smaller than Guatemala, but more densely populated, with the result that labor conditions are much better in the former than in the latter... Undoubtedly agriculture presents many difficulties in these two countries, and their farmers deserve the best technical advice, financial encouragement, and the utmost consideration, not only in connection with the problems of agriculture but also with those of its twin brother, highway construction."

Interna-
tional
Business
Meeting

An editorial in Barron's for February 9 says: "Early in May.... delegates to the International Chamber of Commerce will assemble in Washington to the number of a thousand or more. Probably never before has the chamber had the opportunity for taking decisive measures for the benefit of the world's business that will face it this year. To be sure, agreement upon the proper courses will be as essential as ever, but it should be much easier to bring about....So many of the nations are in such straits, commercially and financially, that their representatives are likely to be ready to unite in any sincere attempt at reconstructive

measures. Specifically, there should be, and no doubt will be, a new disposition to cooperate, without insisting upon particular national advantages as the price of cooperation....."

Reindeer
in Alaska

Food Industries for February says: "A committee was recently appointed by Secretary of the Interior Wilbur to investigate the problems that have arisen out of the rapid increase of reindeer herds in Alaska. At the present time, there are about 1,000,000 reindeer along the west coast of Alaska, and they breed so rapidly and dependably that 300,000 a year may be slaughtered without depleting the herds. Some tens of thousands of reindeer carcasses are now being shipped to the United States every summer, chiefly from the Seward Peninsula. It is held, however, that the proper method for utilizing this store of reindeer meat is not by shipping it out as slaughtered, but should be based upon the establishment of special packing houses in Alaska. Corned meat, canned meat, smoked meat, sausage meat, and package meat put up in accordance with recently developed methods of quick-freezing are believed to present the most advantageous means. A survey of the Alaskan situation from the standpoint of developing plants to take care of reindeer meat indicates that one plant at Cantwell, on the Alaskan Railroad, capable of handling 300,000 carcasses a year, should be established, and that possibly a half dozen smaller plants at different points along the coast should be set up....."

Soybean
Oil Meal

An editorial in Wallaces' Farmer for February 7 says: "The splendid results obtained by the Iowa, Indiana, and other experiment stations with soybean oil meal leads us to the comment that the soybean oil mills in the corn belt have not been able to dispose of their soybean oil meal to as good advantage as they should. We have two soybean oil mills in Iowa, and we understand that they have not found the demand for soybean oil meal so very great. This is really unfortunate, because we understand that soybean oil meal is one of the most valuable of the high protein feeds. In the hog ration, soybean oil meal can be substituted for a considerable part of the tankage, benefiting both the hog and the hog feeder's pocketbook. The nice thing about soybean oil meal is that it is home-grown. Freight rates do not enter in to the same extent as they do in so many feeds which are used in the corn belt. We need more soybean mills in the corn belt, but they will not come if corn belt feeders do not patronize soybean oil meal more enthusiastically."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Feb. 9.—Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers: steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9-12; cows, good and choice \$4.50-6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25-10; vealers, good and choice \$8.50-10.50; Feeder and stocker cattle: steers, good and choice \$7-8.75. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50-7.20; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.85-8; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25-8. (Soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.) Slaughter sheep and lambs: lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8.25-9.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50-8.25.

Grain: No. 1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 73-5/8¢-77-5/8¢; No. 2 red winter, Chicago 79½¢; St. Louis, 80-80½¢; No. 2 hard winter, Chicago 78½¢-79¼¢; Kansas City 69-69½¢; No. 3 mixed corn, Chicago 62¼¢-64¾¢; Minneapolis 56½¢-57½¢; Kansas City 54-55½¢; No. 3 yellow, Chicago 63¼¢-65¢; Minneapolis 57½¢-60½¢; St. Louis 63½¢-64½¢; Kansas City 56½¢-58¢; No. 3 white oats, Chicago 33-33½¢; Minneapolis 30-1/8-30-5/8¢; St. Louis 34¢; Kansas City 35-35½¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.70-2 per 100 lbs. in eastern cities; mostly \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.30-1.40 carlot sales in Chicago; few \$1.10 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions brought 85¢-\$1.10 per 100 lbs. in eastern cities; 50-75¢ in Chicago and 60-65¢ f.o.b. Rochester, New York. Florida various varieties of strawberries in 36-pint crates ranged 17-20¢ per pint in city markets; 14-16½¢ f.o.b. Plant City. New York Danish type cabbage \$18-22 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$11-12 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.50-2 per western lettuce crate in the East; few 75-85¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$1.25-1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; \$1.20 f.o.b. Rochester. Michigan Rhode Island Greenings \$1.50-1.75; Spys mostly \$2.25 in Chicago.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 1 point to 9.84¢ per pound. On the corresponding day one year ago the price was 15.18¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 10.58¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 2 points to 10.62¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 27½¢; 91 score, 27¢; 90 score, 26½¢.

Wholesale prices of No. 1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 16½¢-18½¢; Single Daisies, 16½¢-16¾¢; Young Americas, 17¼¢-17½¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXX, No. 35

Section 1

February 11, 1931

IN CONGRESS

President Hoover yesterday signed the Wagner bill providing for advanced planning in Federal construction with a view to keeping up construction in times of depression.

The Senate yesterday passed the Hastings bill authorizing \$10,000,000 for construction of rural post roads in 1932 and 1933.

Senator Robinson of Indiana yesterday introduced a bill providing for a five-day work week in the Government Printing Office.

An "Everglades National Park," incorporating some 2,000 square miles of tropic country in the Cape Sables region of Florida, would be established under provisions of a bill which passed the Senate last night. A parallel bill by Representative Ruth Bryan Owen has been favorably reported by the public lands committee of the House.

Opposition to legislation prohibiting trading in futures was expressed before the Senate agricultural committee yesterday by the presidents of the New York and Chicago grain and cotton exchanges. (Press, Feb. 11.)

BREAD PRICE

Bread was described yesterday as a price aristocrat when compared to its ancestors, wheat and flour, according to the press to-day. The report says: "Ethelbert Stewart, Commissioner of Labor

Statistics, said it cost more than it should in view of the cheapness of the materials. He presented statistics to show the price of bread in 51 cities is higher relatively than the wheat price and higher also than the average price of all other food products. The cost of virtually all ingredients of bread, except condensed milk, have dropped recently, Mr. Stewart said. A mass of statistics were presented to the Senate committee by representatives of millers and Government departments to show that the prices of wheat and flour to-day are lower than in years...."

RED CROSS FUND

A contribution from President Hoover of \$7,500, or 10 per cent of his annual salary of \$75,000, toward the Red Cross \$10,000,000 drought relief fund, was announced by Chairman John Barton

Payne yesterday. With the receipt of the President's contribution, total subscriptions to the fund reached \$7,313,116. (Press, Feb. 11.)

LUMBER PRODUCTS EMBARGO

Holding that convict labor is used in the production of lumber and pulpwood in four districts of the White Sea in northern Russia, the Treasury Department placed an embargo on both products yesterday. (Press, Feb. 11.)

STOCK MARKET

The New York Times to-day says: "Another runaway market developed yesterday on the New York Stock Exchange, with the public and Wall Street professionals joining hands for the first time in a year in an enthusiastic buying demonstration which lifted the main body of stocks 2 to 6 points and sensitive specialties 7 to 14 points...."

Section 2

Agriculture
in the
South

An editorial in The Progressive Farmer for February 1-14 says: "It is interesting that the drift in agriculture, like the drift in industry, is toward the South. Of 14 Southern States, 8 showed increases in the number of farms, 1920-30, and only 6 showed decreases. Of the other 34 States, 19 showed decreases and only 15 increases. Take the 14 southernmost States of the Union, from Carolina to California inclusive, and only 3 of the 14 showed decreases; 11 showed increases. Agriculture, manufacturing, and population—all are headed southward....Before us, too, is an editorial from The Business Week of New York, reviewing the 1930 census results and saying:--'Looking at the map of the United States as a whole, the census is a witness to the remarkable progress in the industrialization of the South. Population increases in southern cities are greater and more numerous than in either the North or West, with the possible exception of the Pacific coast.'"

Asparagus
Industry

An editorial in The Oregon Farmer for January 29 says: "Asparagus growing even under existing conditions is profitable in the Hermiston-Stanfield and Milton-Freewater districts of Umatilla County, but larger per-acre yields would make it more so and growers are seeking means of securing them. In cooperation with the county agent, J. S. Dyer of the Hermiston district established a series of demonstration plots which are expected to determine which of eight combinations of commercial fertilizer will produce best results."

Frozen
Fruits

An editorial in The Miami Herald for January 31 says: "The prevalence around Miami of a considerable evidence of orange and grapefruit overproduction, and the recent announcement from marketing officials that too much grapefruit planting is taking place, arouses the hope that freezing plants similar to the ones on the West coast will be built here. Many of our winter visitors could well afford to look into this business of freezing oranges and grapefruit juice for delivery in northern cities. In this section, and up through the Indian River country, there will always be a wealth of citrus fruit, barring occasional freaks of nature. If juice can be frozen and delivered daily in other parts of the country and retain its original flavor and freshness, as it would, Florida nor any other State will ever be able to glut that market as the market for the fresh fruit itself often is. Canned grapefruit is quite excellent. But with grapefruit as with any other fruit or vegetable, the canned product never equals the appeal of the fresh. Improved freezing methods developed in the last two or three years make it possible to put orange and grapefruit juice and even the fruit itself into a sort of Rip Van Winkle sleep of halted action, to be awakened at will when the need arises. The Borden Farm Products, Inc., has signed contracts for orange juice in Tampa which makes it necessary to open a \$100,000 plant for producing the juice. The juice will be frozen either in large blocks or in individual containers, shipped by refrigerator car and boat to New York, and held there pending delivery on the same trucks that deliver daily milk...."

**Livestock
Losses**

An editorial in National Live Stock Producer (Chicago) for February says: "Remarkable results have been obtained in the prevention of livestock losses where the question has been studied and when consistent effort has been made to handle cattle, hogs and sheep properly in shipping. The reduction in losses already achieved have led to the organization of several State associations. Plans are now well under way to organize all forces interested in the subject into a national organization with a paid manager in charge. General farm and livestock organizations, railroads, insurance companies, stockyards companies, educational institutions and others will direct the policies of the new organization and will support it financially. Activities of such a group will be invaluable in keeping the many factors bearing on losses before the men who are largely responsible and millions of dollars will be saved annually to the livestock industry. A National Live Stock Loss Prevention Association will save many times the cost of administration of such an educational institution."

**Milk Pasteuri-
zation in
Chile**

President Ibanez promulgated on July 31, 1930, a law approved by congress for the regulation of the milk industry. The law, which will go into effect September 1, 1931, provides for the pasteurization of all milk sold in the Republic, and includes other sanitary measures for the handling of the product to protect the consumer. (Diario Oficial Santiago, August 4, 1930)

**Peruvian
Unemploy-
ment**

A special act to alleviate in part the unemployment situation in Peru was passed by the Council of Government on September 15, 1930. The act provided for the strict enforcement of measures compelling owners or managers of rural property to devote at least 15 per cent of their lands to the cultivation of food plants; for the keeping of unemployment registers in Lima, Callao, and other places throughout the Republic where it should prove necessary; and for the suspension of the law of eviction of unpaid rent for a period of 60 days, workers regularly employed up to August 20, 1930, and able to prove that they had been paying rent of 30 soles or less being allowed a moratorium of 60 days for the payment of that due. The act also suspended the payment of fees for building permits for a period of 90 days and authorized the immediate resumption of certain specified public works. (Pan-American Union Bulletin, January)

**Tax Reduc-
tion**

An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for February 7 says: "Elsewhere in this issue is an account of a tax-reduction program started by tax payers and aimed at local taxes. It is worthy of consideration by other localities where the tax burden has become an acute problem. Plans to reduce taxes are coming from all directions. In Illinois recently the Tax Commission reduced assessed valuations in fifteen counties by 15 to 25 per cent. In West Virginia the commission for the revision of the Constitution presented a tax-reduction plan in its recommendations. In Pennsylvania, however, where there is no direct State tax on farms, a logical beginning is in local communities and with local taxes. ..."

Unemployment

An editorial in The Christian Science Monitor for February 7 says: "...Prices, economists agree, will in time rectify themselves. But markets? Where to find them? China, with 350,000,000 inhabitants, offers a market of great potential value once it emerges from its years of civil war. India, with 300,000,000 people, will become a heavy purchaser of the world's goods when it ceases to bar foreign manufacturers. Russia, now in political seclusion, has tremendous possibilities as a market. Every western nation, moreover, has within its own boundaries millions of men and women whose wants far exceed their earnings. Given a fuller share in the tasks and rewards of production, they would constitute a vast new market. But all of these millions, in whatever part of the world, must become producers even before they become buyers. Therefore the world must prepare for a larger and freer interchange and distribution of goods than it has ever known before if all are to find employment...."

Vegetable

Consumption An editorial in Pennsylvania Farmer for February 7 says: "Thirty-two different kinds of vegetables were found on display in Pittsburgh retail markets one day in January by an observer who took the trouble to count them. In addition several varieties of some kinds were offered. We seldom realize the change which has taken place in vegetable production and consumption in recent years. The increasing demand--we are now eating twice as many vegetables per head as fifteen years ago--has joined with improved transportation to bring in fresh products at all seasons. The public is 'vegetable minded,' which should be an encouraging sign for producers in this territory. They are near vast numbers of consumers, which is an advantage, and they can grow stuff of high quality, if so minded, which is another fact in their favor. The belief that home-grown things are better than those shipped long distances is quite commonly held by consumers. They should not be disillusioned, neither should growers deceive themselves by thinking that they can rest on their reputation. Their hold on the market depends primarily on the taste of the things they raise, and not on season, for an 'off' season in vegetable supply no longer exists. Folks can get what they want when they want it, and local growers can profit most by giving them something better than they can get elsewhere."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Feb. 10.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice, \$8.75 to \$11.75; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice, \$6 to \$10; vealers, good and choice \$9 to \$11; feeder and stocker cattle; steers, good and choice \$7 to \$8.75. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.50 to \$7.30; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$8 to \$8.15; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$8.10 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8.50 to \$9.75; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.35.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 74 $1\frac{1}{8}\phi$ to 78 $1\frac{1}{8}\phi$; No.2 red winter, St. Louis 80 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ to 80 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 79 ϕ ; Kansas City 69 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ to 70 ϕ ; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 63 ϕ to 63 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Minneapolis 57 ϕ to 58 ϕ ; Kansas City 55 ϕ to 56 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; No.3 yellow, Chicago 63 ϕ to 65 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Minneapolis 58 ϕ to 61 ϕ ; St. Louis 63 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ to 65 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Kansas City 57 to 59 ϕ ; No.3 white oats, Chicago 33 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Minneapolis 30 $\frac{3}{8}$ to 30 $\frac{7}{8}\phi$; St. Louis 34 ϕ to 34 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.70-\$2 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; mostly \$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.30-\$1.40 carlot sales in Chicago; mostly \$1.10-\$1.15 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Danish type cabbage \$18-\$22 bulk per ton in terminal markets; \$11-\$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.50-\$2 per western lettuce crate in city markets; 75 ϕ -85 ϕ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Florida various varieties of strawberries brought 35 ϕ -40 ϕ per quart in the East; 28 ϕ -30 ϕ f.o.b. Plant City. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions ranged 50 ϕ -\$1.10 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 65 ϕ -70 ϕ f.o.b. Rochester. Delaware and Maryland Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.50-\$2.25 per bushel hampers in the East. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.30-\$1.40 in the Middle West; top of \$1.60 in Kansas City. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, No.1, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, brought \$1.25-\$1.50 and McIntosh \$1.50-\$1.75 per bushel basket in New York City; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.20 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 17 points to 10.01 ϕ per lb. On the same day last year the price stood at 15.32 ϕ . March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 22 points to 10.80 ϕ , and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 21 points to 10.83 ϕ .

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 28 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; 91 score, 28 ϕ ; 90 score, 27 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 18 ϕ ; Single Daisies, 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 16 $\frac{3}{4}\phi$; Young Americas, 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 17 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXX, No. 36

Section 1

February 12, 1931.

DROUGHT RELIEF LEGISLATION The Senate yesterday called upon Secretary Hyde to say whether the pending drought relief measure would permit use of the \$20,000,000 loan fund for purchase of food, clothing and medicine by the farmer borrowers, according to the press to-day. The resolution calling for an interpretation by the administration was offered by Senator Borah and unanimously adopted at the end of a day of debate over the proposal.

GRAIN EXCHANGE INVESTIGATION Senators Capper and Norris, before the Senate agricultural committee yesterday, urged restriction of grain exchange speculation and met with protestations from presidents of exchanges, according to to-day's press.

BREAD PRICE INVESTIGATION Frederic H. Frazier, of New York, chairman of the board of the General Baking Corporation, was told yesterday by Senator Capper that his company should reduce immediately the price of bread to Washington consumers "at least 1 cent a pound," according to the press to-day. Senator Capper's admonition was given at the close of the day's hearing by the special Senate food price investigation committee, of which the Kansan is chairman. Henry Stude, representing the American Bakers Association, and Mr. Frazier contended that improvement in the quality of bread and new varieties demanded by the public accounted for the spread between the declining prices of wheat and flour and the cost of bread to the consumer.

RED CROSS FUND Contributions to the Red Cross \$10,000,000 drought-relief fund totaled \$7,511,222 yesterday, according to the press to-day.

SURGEON GENERAL ON ARKANSAS NEEDS A Memphis dispatch to-day states that Surgeon General H. S. Cumming, of the United States Public Health Service, went into one of Arkansas' drought-stricken counties yesterday and said he found reason to believe conditions would become worse instead of improving in the near future.

PSITTACOSIS VICTIMS A New York dispatch to-day states that one man is dead from psittacosis, the dread parrot fever which caused several deaths a year ago, and four of his relatives are ill in a Brooklyn hospital. The disease was believed to have been contracted from parakeets sent to the family from Havana. Six of the birds arrived December 31.

POSTAL SERVICE WORK HOURS The Senate yesterday passed the bill providing for a 44-hour work week for employees in the postal service, its action putting the measure up to President Hoover, who is expected to give it his approval. (Press, Feb. 12.)

Section 2

Cancer and
Magnesium
in Soil

Paris correspondence in the Journal of the American Medical Association for February 7 says: "Professor Delbet is carrying on research on the relation that he alleges exists between the dearth of magnesium in the soil and the development of cancer. He stimulates research by other investigators and publishes results that appear to confirm his thesis. He presented recently to the Academy of Medicine the results of the research of Dr. Robinet of Moret. The latter prepared statistics on cancer mortality in the small rural communes with less than 5,000 inhabitants, who live directly from the soil. He then made investigations to determine the magnesium content of the French soil. He presented two maps, one showing the distribution of magnesium and the other the relative incidence of cancer. The relationship between the two maps is striking. Of the twenty-five districts with a very low cancer incidence, twenty-four have a soil with a high magnesium content. Of the twenty-four districts having the most cancer, twenty-three have no magnesium. Continuing his research, Robinet prepared two maps of the distribution of magnesium and the incidence of cancer in Alsace-Lorraine. They confirm the results of the comparison of the two maps of France. The departments of Haut-Rhin and Bas-Rhin have a high cancer incidence (coefficient 9.2 and 9.6) and their soil has but little magnesium. In the department of Moselle, in which there is not half as much cancer (coefficient 4), there are everywhere strata with a high content of magnesium."

Chilean
Poultry

Under the direction of Sr. Dario Bonilla Vicuna, chief of the bee and poultry section of the Agricultural School, Santiago, a two months' intensive course in the raising and marketing of poultry was opened on October 4, 1930. Special emphasis was laid on the problems of incubation and care of young chicks. Classes were held on Saturdays and Sundays, in order not to interfere with the regular duties of anyone wishing to enroll. (Pan-American Union Bulletin, January.)

Farm Marketing
Problems

An editorial in The Ohio Farmer for February 7 says: "Periods of rapidly declining prices are periods of trouble for leaders of co-operative organizations marketing farm products. Everyone is familiar with the difficulties of the grain marketing organizations, which saw the value of their holdings decline below the advance payments made to the producers of the grain held. The possibility that prices may some day come back does not interest the banks that advanced the money that made the payments creating the financial situation in which these organizations find themselves. That is one type of trouble confronting some cooperative leaders. There is another difficulty and Ohio dairy organizations are face to face with it to-day. Prices have declined sharply, production has increased, consumption has fallen off and the leaders of the organization are hard put to it to find outlets for the products of their members. Certainly the butter market is anything but rosy and other outlets for manufactured milk products have all but vanished....In the case of the milk market everyone expected curtailment of production following the dry summer of 1930 and the comparatively low butterfat prices then prevailing. But the larger number of dairy cows and heifers coming into production and the tremendous gains the dairy industry had been making in the one-crop States had not been entirely reckoned with. Production did not decline; it increased instead and at the same time consumption fell off, particularly immediately following the holidays..."

Farmer
Loans

The twelve Federal intermediate credit banks loaned \$109,927,-063 to farmers' cooperative organizations in 1930 and discounted notes for \$109,047,068, the proceeds of which had been loaned by local institutions, according to the press to-day. The report says: "These totals were shown yesterday in the quarterly report of the Farm Loan Board and were greater than for any year since 1923. Loans to cooperative marketing organizations outstanding at the end of 1930 amounted to \$64,377,-067, of which loans on cotton totaled about \$39,000,000; wool, \$9,000,-000; grains, \$3,500,000; dried fruits, \$5,500,000; canned fruits and vegetables, \$2,700,000; rice, \$2,100,000, and beans, \$1,300,000. "

Game Laws

An editorial by I. T. Quinn, Game and Fish Commissioner of Alabama, in Field and Stream for March says: "It is against the law!... and that is all there is to it. The minds of the American people have been drugged with that statement, and a curious complex built on prejudice has become an obsession. This is especially true in the whole field of wild-life conservation. Understand me, I am not against prohibitions and inhibitions of a constructive nature. We must have closed seasons, bag and creel limits, methods and devices to guide the gunner or fisherman in the rightful pursuit of his game. I am a strong believer in having the right kind of prohibitive laws on our Federal and State statute books in reference to the protection of all useful species of wild life, and I believe these laws should be strictly observed and enforced. But laws of prohibition are negative in their meaning and too often negative in results... Away with the cry of the impractical sentimentalist who belches forth fire upon the heads of the sportsmen who finance the whole conservation layout and are satisfied with a reasonable bag limit! Predatory animals take a heavier toll annually of many economically important species than all the gunners combined. The fact that 65 per cent of all bob-white eggs in the South are destroyed by vermin before incubation is a case in point. The common house cat takes an annual toll of fifty birds. This is in excess of that of the average gunner throughout the country... What wild life needs in this country--I do not care whether it is song birds, insectivorous birds, migratory wildfowl, upland game birds, shore birds, fur-bearers or game animals--are water, food, cover and a suitable place, quiet and unfrequented, in which to propagate and rear their young. If we will get on this basis in an honest endeavor, and dig up some money somewhere to do the work that is necessary to be done, we will be able to maintain a reasonable supply of game birds, animals and fur-bearers in this country and a normal supply of song and insectivorous birds for the enjoyment and economic good of this and future generations. Away with your theories! Let's get down to brass tacks. Again, I do not wish to be misunderstood. I am for the rigid enforcement of every reasonable statute which relates to the protection and conservation of wild life and the strict observance of those laws on the part of gunners and anglers. However, unless we get down to constructive operations, we can toot the horn and blow the trumpet about what we are doing, but it will avail us nothing. Unless we get down to doing something of a real constructive nature, those quasi-political towhees who oppose all sport will take the reins out of our hands. In a short time all that will be left will be a vast wilderness stretching from the Arctic to the Gulf and from the Atlantic to the Pacific and a few signs on which will be the words 'Wild Life Sanctuary.'"

Seed Briquettes An Oslo, Norway, dispatch to the Christian Science Monitor for February 5 says: "New machinery for planting trees in bulk, with a greatly reduced mortality of seed, has been in use in Norway during the last 12 months. The method involves a system of plant briquettes. Each of these consists of a layer of earth mixture suitable for the seed, in which five seeds are set, and then covered with more earth. The seeds are inclosed in a capsule to protect them from the birds. The briquette is then dipped in liquid paraffin wax, which forms an outer covering... Some 16,000 briquettes with seeds are produced in eight hours by one machine, ready to be planted immediately or to be left for further growth in the small earth cubes, even for as long as one year. Thus replanting, which is done with a specially constructed spade, may take place at any time of the year convenient to the forester or farmer.... The cost of production is about one ore (less than one-third of a cent) per briquette, while the cost of a plant from the forest nurseries is from one to two ore. Hitherto Norway has produced some 10,000,000 trees a year, of which about half have not survived. With one automatic machine of this kind placed in each of Norway's eighteen country counties a total of 100,000,000 plants a year could be reached...."

Sugar Research The Mellon Institute of Industrial Research has begun a broad investigation into possible industrial uses for raw and refined sugar. Research will be conducted by a Multiple Industrial Fellowship sustained by the Sugar Institute of New York. Studies of private workers already have indicated promising results and these findings will be studied at the Institute laboratories. Considerable attention will be given uses for sugar in wood preservation, textile finishing, and manufacture of adhesives. (Tea & Coffee Trade Journal, January.)

Section 3

**Department of
Agriculture**

An editorial in The Washington Post for February 11 says: "The Department of Agriculture has set out to ascertain how much 'sugar coating' the public desires with its radio broadcasting. Since 1926 the department has been using the air regularly to transmit to farmers the latest agricultural news. The programs always have been of the monologue type. During February and March, however, experiments will be made with nine different types of program presentation. The test of the acceptability of these various methods will be the reaction of the invisible audience as expressed in letters to the department. Something is very much the matter with radio broadcasting....Harold A. Lafount, member of the Federal Radio Commission, makes the suggestion that a limitation be imposed upon the kind and amount of advertising material broadcast by radio stations....The Department of Agriculture experiment may find that certain kinds of 'sugar coating' are desired by the public, but probably it will not. Advertisers are learning that 'sugar coating' does not overcome public repugnance to excessive 'sales talk.'"

Section 4 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Feb. 11.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$8.75 to \$11.75; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6 to \$10; vealers, good and choice \$8.50 to \$11; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$7 to \$8.75. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.40 to \$7.10; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.90 to \$8.10; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7.25 to \$8. (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8 to \$9.35; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 73 $\frac{7}{8}$ to 77 $\frac{7}{8}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago 79¢; St. Louis 80 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 81¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago 79 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 69 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 70¢; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 63¢; Minneapolis 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 54¢ to 55 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 65 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 62 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 63 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Kansas City 56 to 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago 33 to 33 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis 29 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 30 $\frac{1}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis 34¢; Kansas City 35¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.70-\$2 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.25-\$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.25-\$1.30 carlot sales in Chicago; best \$1.10-\$1.15 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions brought 50¢-\$1.10 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 60¢-80¢ f.o.b. Rochester, N.Y. New York Danish type cabbage \$18-\$21 bulk per ton in terminal markets; mostly \$11-\$12 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.50-\$2 per western lettuce crate in city markets; 75¢-85¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Florida various varieties of strawberries in pony refrigerators closed at 35¢-40¢ per quart in the East; 28¢-31¢ f.o.b. Plant City, Florida. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$1.25-\$1.50; McIntosh \$1.50-\$1.75 per bushel basket in New York City. Michigan Rhode Island Greenings \$1.50-\$1.75 in Chicago.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in ten designated markets advanced 10 points to 10.11¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the average for six quoting markets was 15.30¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 9 points to 10.89¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 8 points to 10.91¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 28¢; 91 score, 27 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 90 score, 27¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 18¢; Single Daisies, 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, 17 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXX, No. 37

Section 1

February 13, 1931.

THE SECRETARY ON RELIEF BILL The press to-day says: "Secretary Hyde interpreted to the Senate yesterday the administration's understanding of the drought relief compromise. In a telegram from Louisville, where he had a speaking engagement, he declared that loans made to farmers under the \$20,000,000 relief amendment offered 'no prohibition against the proceeds of such loans being used for food and other supplies' if they were necessary for farm rehabilitation during crop production....Secretary Hyde's interpretation was given in response to the Borah resolution, adopted on Wednesday. It called upon the Secretary to explain whether the loans could be applied to food purchases...."

VETERANS' BONUS PLAN A compromise proposal to increase loans on veterans' service certificates from $22\frac{1}{2}$ to 50 per cent with interest charges reduced to $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent was unanimously agreed upon yesterday by the House ways and means committee, according to the press to-day. The report says: "The proposal is expected to involve an outlay of \$700,000,000, if 60 per cent of the veterans apply for funds it would make available. Should the 3,500,000 veterans seek loans, the measure would call for \$1,711,500,000, less present loans of \$325,000,000...."

BREAD PRICE REDUCTION Reduction of 1 cent a loaf in the price of whole wheat bread sold by his company was promised yesterday by M. Lee Marshall, chairman of the board of the Continental Baking Co., according to the press to-day. The reduction will be effective Monday in Washington and other cities where the Continental Baking Co. operates, Mr. Marshall said. Announcement of the price cut was made during his testimony before the special Senate food price investigating committee, of which Senator Capper is chairman.

DROUGHT AID The first complete Red Cross report of all drought areas, tabulated yesterday at national headquarters, showed 255,737 families receiving aid in 735 counties of 20 States, at the beginning of this month, according to a statement of the press. The report says: "Census Bureau statistics over many decades show an average of four and a fraction persons per family, which would bring the number of those being fed above 1,000,000. But Red Cross officials said the peak probably would be passed in February, and March would show a rapid decline in demands, since Federal loans then would be effective and seasonal employment would be opening. Already the temporary emergency has been cleared in New Mexico, which had completed the list of 21 States hard hit by the drought. With 113,768 families receiving food, clothing and other relief, Arkansas was by far the most famine-stricken State. Louisiana came second with 35,409 families.

CASH CIRCULATION The per capita circulation of money in the United States reached the lowest point since 1914, during January, when it dropped to \$37.11, figured on a basis of a population of 124,230,000.(A.P., Feb.11.)

Section 2

Bread with
Vitamin D

Conclusions that vitamin D is essential to normal human metabolism; that a large percentage of people in the Temperate Zone obtain very little vitamin D through its chief source, sunshine, and that an additional general supply of the vitamin may be made available through its incorporation in bread, are reported by Dr. Frederick F. Tisdall, T. G. H. Drake and Alan Brown as a result of experiments in the nutritional research laboratories of the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children. The report, contained in the current issue of The Canadian Medical Association Journal, says that, while the relationship of vitamin D to the prevention and cure of rickets is universally acknowledged, the importance of this vitamin in the maintenance of normal human metabolism, that is, the maintenance of the changes in the body cells by which energy is provided for vital process and activities and new material is assimilated, is not so widely recognized. No other vitamin is so sparsely distributed in food, the report states, egg yolk being the only commonly used food which contains it in appreciable amounts. Stressing the need of an additional source, the report tells of the discovery of a method of incorporating an amount of vitamin D in a loaf of bread equal to the strength of three teaspoonfuls of cod-liver oil. Vitamins B and E, it was discovered, also could be incorporated into bread by the addition of wheat germ. The three doctors report the production of a white loaf containing appreciable amounts of vitamins B, D and E without changing the appearance or taste of the bread and with no additional cost to the consumer. (Press, Feb. 12.)

Canned Peas

"With consumption of canned peas coming along nicely, there were plenty of danger signals in 1930. When the pack was announced as 22,000,000 we just couldn't believe it. We did not have a large acre yield and none of our neighbors did. Yield in southern Wisconsin was only about 60 cases per acre, yet the average for the United States was 84.5. Reason simply was that the pea-canning industry has gotten so big and spread out into so many hands that it is necessary for every canner in the entire country to cut acreage and to cut peas younger. It is not possible to have an average yield of over 80 cases per acre without having too much poor quality." (Fred A. Stare, Columbus Food Corp., Jan. 21.)

Citrus Fruit

Sears, Roebuck & Co. has added oranges, grapefruit and tangerines to the stock of its Miami store as the initial step in establishing a mail order trade in Florida citrus fruits. It is said 10,000 boxes have been contracted for. Orders will be accepted from any part of the country, shipment to be made from Miami. (N.Y. Journal of Commerce, Jan. 30.)

Cost-Cutting

in Argentina

A Buenos Aires dispatch to the press of February 12 says: "Argentina's determined assault on the high cost of living, fostered by the government, will reach another objective tomorrow when meat goes on sale in the public markets at prices reduced by about 30 per cent. With that accomplished, the authorities plan a campaign to reduce rents, lower the prices of clothing, cut the cost of building material and generally bring living costs to a 'reasonable' level. ..."

**Frozen Corn
on Cob**

"Successful experiments have been made in sharp freezing corn on the cob. It is frozen within three or four hours after it is taken from the field and the flavor, when it is thawed out and eaten weeks or months later, is perfect and infinitely better than the ears of corn which are sent to big markets fresh, the difference being that sharp freezing holds the flavor as it was when picked, and shipped corn for delivery fresh is two to six days old by the time consumers get it." (O. Lockett, before National Cannery Ass'n.)

**Rubber Pro-
duction**

An editorial in The Washington Post for February 12 says: "Henry Ford's denial that he contemplated abandoning his extensive rubber plantations in Brazil was received with widespread satisfaction. ...A complete reorganization is to be put through, to the end that the production of rubber in commercial quantities may be hastened....The Firestone plantations in Liberia are soon to come into active production and the Ford concession in Brazil promises to be a fruitful source of supply. In another war, however, even though Americans may possess producing sources of crude rubber, there is the possibility that the channels of transportation may be closed by blockade or by inability to secure bottoms in which to bring crude rubber to this country. It is because America needs a source of crude rubber that is not subject to obstruction in war that Thomas A. Edison set himself to the task of evolving or discovering a rubber weed that will thrive in American soil. The possibility of developing rubber on a commercial scale from the guayule plant is also of interest. Guayule has grown wild for years on the plains of Mexico, and for 25 years rubber has been produced from it. Since 1919 experiments have been under way in California, and to-day 6,000 acres of the shrub are under cultivation, of which 1,000 acres are ready for harvest. The new plant will produce, it is said, 15,000 pounds of rubber a day. This, of course, is not a great deal of rubber. The mere fact, however, that it can be produced commercially in such small quantities seemingly indicates that the guayule shrub has large possibilities as a source of domestic rubber when its cultivation is extended...."

**Stock Market
Revival**

An editorial in The Journal of Commerce for February 11 says: "The return of a 4,000,000-share day followed by unwonted activity in a number of branches of the market has apparently been hailed with satisfaction by a good many observers who regard it as evidence of the coming restoration of good times. Promises of various sorts have been made with considerable freedom for some time past and their burden has been to the effect that improving business should be quite speedily reflected in improving stock market conditions and quotations. In these circumstances it is natural to treat the market revival as a ratification of such promises and a foretaste of better things to come. Stock market memories are notoriously short, but they ought to be long enough to recall some of the events of the spring of 1930, when there were many days that seemed to hold out just such suggestions as are now presented. They culminated in disappointment because the conditions were not ready for a permanent revival. They are not ready for it to-day. A certain amount of groundwork has been done in clearing up the condition of the banks and a beginning has been made toward eliminating some of the surplus supplies of commodities that have been so embarrassing a feature of the entire situation for a good while past. In

addition, it is not to be denied that rather better prospects exist at the moment in a considerable number of branches of trade. The advance has not been noteworthy, but has been enough to afford encouragement. And yet in all this there is not enough to furnish the basis for renewal of stock market excitement...."

Section 3

Department of Agriculture

An editorial in Christian Science Monitor for February 10 says: "A widespread vote of thanks is due to W. G. Campbell, Chief of the Food and Drug Administration of the United States Department of Agriculture, for the warning he has just issued against influenza 'cures.' He did not mince words, at all, for he declared that any manufacturer who attempts to 'cash in on the public's fear' by selling preparations represented by label, or circular accompanying the package, as preventives or treatments for influenza, grippe, pneumonia, or related diseases 'renders his product liable to seizure and himself to prosecution' under the food and drugs act....Mr. Campbell makes an important distinction when he urges prospective buyers to compare the curative claims made for any such preparation in newspaper, magazine or radio advertising with the necessarily conservative wording upon the label of the product itself. Under the law, the manufacturer is under compulsion to keep within the bounds of fact in his specification of the contents of his product. In his advertising, his conscience must be his guide as to what he claims. A safe rule for the average person to follow may be deduced from another sweeping assertion included by Mr. Campbell in his warning: 'According to medical authorities, there is no known drug or combination of drugs, nor any food, which will prevent or cure influenza. This statement reflects world-wide medical experience and is generally accepted as a fact.'....."

Section 4
MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm
Products

Feb. 13.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$8.75 to \$11.75; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$10; vealers, good and choice \$8.50 to \$11; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$7 to \$8.75. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$6.90; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.75 to \$7.95; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$7.75 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8 to \$9.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.25.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.70-\$2 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.20-\$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.30-\$1.40 carlot sales in Chicago; best \$1.10-\$1.15 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Danish type cabbage 90¢-\$1.15 per 100 pound sacks in city markets; \$11 bulk per ton f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.50-\$1.85 per western lettuce crate in terminal markets; 65¢-75¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. New York and midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions ranged 50¢ to \$1 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 65¢-75¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Florida various varieties of strawberries in 36-pint crates brought 17¢-22¢ per pint in city markets; 13¢-16¢ f.o.b. Plant City. New York Baldwin apples \$1.25-\$1.50 per bushel basket in the East; \$1.25-\$1.35 f.o.b. Rochester. Michigan Rhode Island Greenings \$1.50-\$1.80 in Chicago.

(No cotton, grain, butter and cheese reports on account of holiday in New York offices yesterday.)

DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. XXXX, No. 38

Section 1

February 14, 1934.

DROUGHT RELIEF BILL

An eight-hour filibuster ended in the Senate last night with an agreement to vote at 2 o'clock to-day on the \$20,000,000 drought loan compromise, according to the press to-day.

BONUS COMPROMISE PROPOSAL OPPOSED

The influence of the administration last night was thrown against the proposal to loan war veterans 50 per cent of the face value of their adjusted compensation certificates. In a letter to Chairman Hawley, of the House ways and means committee, Secretary Mellon estimated the cost of the proposal at from \$500,000,000 to \$1,000,000,000 and asserted the money could not be raised without seriously interfering with the Government's financial program. (A.P., Feb. 14.)

RED CROSS AID

The Associated Press to-day says: "The beginning of the end of the Red Cross general feeding program is set for March 1 in southern plantation States. National headquarters made known yesterday that the present ration system will be abandoned as fast as farmers establish credit. In Louisiana and adjacent plantation States, March 1 has been set to stop general feeding, because the first two weeks of that month are the 'furnishing' period for cotton farmers, when credit arrangements for the next crop are made...."

BREAD PRICES

Giant baking corporations hold Washington retailers and consumers at their mercy, and combinations in the dairy business have almost achieved the same power, the Capper food-price investigating committee of the Senate was told yesterday by W. M. Hornstein, president of the United Food Stores of Washington, according to the press to-day. The report says: "There are a number of independent bakeries in Washington, Mr. Hornstein said, but their owners are afraid to do anything to reduce prices for fear of a price war in the course of which they would be crushed by the superior financial resources of the nationally powerful baking companies...."

Testimony in the Senate's investigation of food prices has convinced Chairman Capper of the investigating committee that the price of bread in many cities is "too high" and is "dictated" in some of them by a few big companies. (Press, Feb. 14.)

INTERNATIONAL BANKING

Active expansion of long-term credits and foreign lending is essential to amelioration of world trade, Gates W. McGarrah, president of the Bank for International Settlements, told the American Club of Paris February 12, according to a Paris dispatch February 13. The report says: "And to make these developments possible, he declared, political tranquillity and stability, both national and international, are imperative. Encouragement of the transfer of capital from the short-term money market into the intermediate credit market and the long-term market is one great financial need, he said, and another is the opening of the world's great money markets, like that of Paris, to foreign financing in the intermediate and long-term markets."

Section 2

Agriculture in Ontario's Program A Toronto dispatch to the press of February 13 reports: "W. D. Ross, Lieutenant Governor, reading the speech from the throne February 12 to members of the legislative assembly of the Province of Ontario, presented a legislative program in which agriculture bulks large. Farm legislation will include special surveys of crop conditions and marketing opportunities, improvement of herds and protection of livestock against parasites."

Electric Cooking Machine Cooking by means of electric waves in a machine which produced a well-prepared steak in five minutes without heating it to the point where vitamins are destroyed, as in ordinary methods, has been demonstrated by a Berlin inventor. Apparatus, about the size of a radio cabinet, consists of a high frequency machine and a spirally wound spool of special metal through which the rays pass. Cooking is done at a temperature of 167 degrees Fahrenheit. Cost of current necessary to prepare a meal is put at about one cent. (N.Y. Times, Feb. 1.)

Ford's Industrial Research University A Detroit dispatch to The Baltimore Sun of February 12 says: "Henry Ford is building the world's first industrial university at Dearborn on the theory that discoveries which may revolutionize in a test tube the economic importance of a carrot or cabbage will point the way for industry's next great advance. Students at the Edison Institute of Technology, the 'higher college' of the Ford Trade School, already are trying to find new uses for the raw materials of earth, Ford revealed yesterday. In laboratories equipped for the most exhaustive research, they are starting on a course intended to take them beyond the established limits of industrial science to horizons as yet seen only dimly.

"Ford was asked to describe the usefulness of a carbonic residue remaining after carrots had been distilled, giving off commercial alcohol, various oils and another liquid so complex that it has defied every effort to analyze it. 'Maybe it will do for building roads or houses,' he replied. 'That's what we want to find out.' The business of garbage reduction and disposal, which has been pretty much of a profitless puzzle since cities began, is receiving due consideration at the university...."

Fruit Juice Distribution "Blend of California and Florida fruit juices, quick-frozen at the point of production, and distributed in glass bottles in the same way that milk is delivered, is an experiment now being successfully tried in Chicago as the test city. National distribution of these juices through institutional outlets, dairy concerns, door-to-door delivery and retail food shops is now being planned by the Pure Orange Juice Co. of America. Juice is supplied under a long-term contract with the California Fruit Growers' Exchange and the Florida Citrus Fruit Growers' Exchange. At present, juice is shipped in frozen form in refrigerator cars to Chicago in large 6-gallon cans in which it is frozen. A fiber container is being designed in which juice will be frozen in consumer packages. Frozen peaches in consumer packages are also being distributed by this organization." (New Era in Food Distribution, Jan.)

Packaged Potatoes "'Kahns potatoes,' the Idaho potatoes which are packaged in cartons, 15 pounds to the sealed box, are making a distinctive hit in New York, according to retailers handling this product. Potatoes are usually potatoes in any man's market, but such is not the case with this 'Big Potato from Idaho.' Newspaper advertising was used to introduce the product to Gotham." (Ice Cream Review, Jan.)

Paraguayan Cotton According to statistics published by the press, the gross weight of cotton produced in Paraguay during the year 1930 was 11,500,000 kilograms. The crop is harvested from January to May. This represents an increase of almost 2,000,000 kilograms over the crop of the previous year. The fiber extracted from the product amounted to 3,598,474 kilograms. (El Diario, Asuncion, October 9, 1930.)

Perishables By Motor Market centers like Chicago send out perishables by motorized transport in all directions, refrigerate them on the way, give overnight delivery service--at cost no greater, but with more flexibility than by steel rail route. Country produce is returned to city markets by the same routes. More than 940,000 lbs. of perishable foods roll out of Chicago every night bound for Michigan and Wisconsin points--equivalent to more than 31 carloads. Former l.c.l. shipment difficulties have been largely eliminated and distribution time in many instances has been cut in half. (New Era in Food Distribution, Jan.)

Russia William C. White, for almost three years resident in Moscow, writes on "Americans in Soviet Russia" in Scribner's for February. He says in part: "There is little unanimous agreement among the foreign colonies on just what the situation in Soviet Russia is; but there is no conversation about anything else unless it be the spread of Communism abroad. Men who have been there for five years are confused and struggle through masses of conflicting particulars for generalizations to which they can hold fast....All foreign non-Communist residents stay closely together; but everywhere among them there is a spirit of Weltschmerz--of international worry, of inability to decide whether this great country is staggering or striding. They see confusion, poverty everywhere; there come depressing tales of distress. But there is tremendous activity and absorbing self-sacrifice on the part of the Communists on all sides. The spirit of serious endeavor which has gripped the youth is inspiring. Foreigners feel that they are only spectators, not participants; some of the American engineers, however, have been gripped by the enthusiasm to build no matter what hardship is involved...."

Southern Conditions Manufacturers Record for February 12 says: "The scarcity of food in the drought areas of a few southern States has caused the South as a whole to receive in certain quarters undeserved and untrue publicity...Without any thought of minimizing conditions in the comparatively small drought areas where real suffering exists, the Manufacturers Record wishes to express for itself, and for the entire South, its amazement and resentment that press dispatches sent out from the afflicted areas so distort and unfairly interpret the situation as to make it seem that the whole South is in want...In fairness

to the South, a few facts about this great section of our country may be briefly stated: The South has a population of more than 40,000,000, and about one-third of the country's area. It embraces sixteen States from Maryland to Texas. Its wealth has been estimated at more than \$80,000,000,000, nearly three times that of New England and within \$7,000,000,000 of the wealth of the Middle Atlantic States, including New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Its resources are varied and its development has been steady and substantial. Arkansas has probably suffered more from the drought than any other State in the Union, but it is only fair to Arkansas to remember that its wealth was estimated at \$2,866,000,000 in 1928 and that it has immense natural resources upon which to build. The drought has not destroyed these natural resources--it has temporarily curtailed productivity from them. Arkansas, it is true, has not made the tremendous strides that have been made by some of the other Southern States, yet between 1910 and 1928 its wealth increased by more than \$1,100,000,000, its manufactures more than doubled, and its farm products increased \$121,000,000. It is absurd to believe that this State's wealth and its resources have been entirely destroyed because parts of the State are in real immediate difficulty and in need of temporary assistance..."

Sugar Uses

An editorial in Nation's Business for February says: "The new competition and the new competitor are always with us. There is more corn in the world than we need to feed hogs and humans and someone tells us that corn and cornstalks can be used to make umbrella handles and wrapping paper. And now that the world is finding itself with too much sugar and that sugar prices are too low to make its production profitable, the scientists of the Mellon Institute in Pittsburgh are seeking to find industrial uses for sugar. The food that once made women fat is to be turned inside out and worked over until it can--the scientists hope--be used for wood preservation, textile finishing and the manufacture of adhesives. Another instance of those 'X forces'--those outside factors which build and kill industries....If the chemists of the Mellon Institute put sugar to work in new ways, what will become of the materials that sugar supplants? "

Vegetable Ice Cream

Ice cream containing vegetables has appeared on the market among the Fred Sanders specialties and has met with a most encouraging reception. The regular vanilla mix with orange juice supplanting the vanilla flavor forms the base to which are added finely chopped beets, carrots, spinach, celery, beans and peas after separate cooking. Three days after its appearance in the stores 200 gallons a day were being manufactured. (Ice Cream Trade Journal, Jan.)

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Feb. 13.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers, steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$8.75 to \$11.75; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$10; vealers, good and choice \$8.50 to \$11; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$7 to \$8.50. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.25 to \$6.90; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.65 to \$7.85; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$7.65. (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8 to \$9.25; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $73\frac{3}{4}$ to $77\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; No.2 red winter, Chicago $79\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; St. Louis 80¢ to 81¢; No.2 hard winter, Chicago $79\frac{1}{2}$ to 80¢; Kansas City 69 to $69\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago $61\frac{1}{4}$ to 62¢; Minneapolis 54 to 55¢; Kansas City $52\frac{1}{2}$ to $53\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 yellow, Chicago 61 to 63¢; Minneapolis $54\frac{1}{2}$ to 58¢; St. Louis 60 to 62¢; Kansas City $53\frac{1}{2}$ to $55\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; No.3 white oats, Chicago $31\frac{3}{4}$ to $32\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Minneapolis $29\frac{1}{4}$ to $29\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; St. Louis $33\frac{1}{2}$ to $33\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Kansas City 34 to $34\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.65-\$2 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.25-\$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.35-\$1.40 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.10-\$1.15 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and midwestern sacked Yellow varieties of onions brought 70¢-\$1.25 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; mostly 70¢ f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage \$18-\$20 bulk per ton in New York and Philadelphia; \$11-\$11.50 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.50-\$1.75 per western lettuce crate in city markets; 65¢-75¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Florida Pointed type \$1-\$1.12½ per 1½-bushel hamper in New York City. Delaware and Maryland Jersey type sweet potatoes \$1.75-\$2.15 per bushel hamper in eastern cities. Tennessee Nancy Halls \$1.25-\$1.50 in the Middle West. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$1.25-\$1.50 and McIntosh \$1.50-\$1.75 per bushel basket, No.1, 2½ inches up, in New York City; Baldwins \$1.50 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets advanced 3 points to 10.14¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.33¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange advanced 1 point to 10.90¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange advanced 3 points to 10.94¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 28¢; 90 score, $27\frac{1}{2}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $16\frac{1}{2}$ to 18¢; Single Daisies, $16\frac{1}{4}$ to $16\frac{3}{4}$ ¢; Young Americas, $17\frac{1}{4}$ to $17\frac{1}{2}$ ¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, United States Department of Agriculture, for the purpose of presenting all shades of opinion as reflected in the press on matters affecting agriculture, particularly in its economic aspects. Approval or disapproval of views and opinions quoted is expressly disclaimed. The intent is to reflect the news of importance.

Vol. XXXX, No. 39

Section 1

February 16, 1931.

**FARM RELIEF
BILL SIGNED** President Hoover on Saturday signed the Interior Department bill carrying an appropriation of \$20,000,000 for loans for farm rehabilitation, according to the press of February 15.

**LEGGE AND
MCKELVIE TO
RETIRE** Alexander Legge, chairman of the Federal Farm Board since July 1929, will retire shortly after March 4, to rejoin the International Harvester Company, according to yesterday's press. The press to-day reports that Samuel R. McKelvie, wheat member of the Farm Board, will retire from the Federal body at the expiration of his term, June 15.

**VETERAN BONUS
LEGISLATION** Opposition to Speaker Longworth's plan for House action to-day on veterans' legislation was voiced last night by Republican Leader Tilson in a statement assailing the procedure and announcing his determination to vote against the measure. (Press, Feb. 16.)

**BREAD PRICE
CUT** A New York dispatch February 15 reports that nation-wide reductions in whole wheat bread prices, in response to a suggestion by the Senate committee on food prices, were announced on Saturday by the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Co. Officials said the reductions will vary, amounting in some sections to 1 cent a loaf, and to 2 and 3 cents in others.

**RED CROSS
FUNDS** The Red Cross on Saturday passed the \$8,000,000 mark in its drive for \$10,000,000 for drought relief, according to the press of February 14.

**GOVERNMENT
COMMUNITY CHEST
CONTRIBUTIONS** Government departments contributed approximately \$467,221.39 toward the Community Chest, it was announced on Saturday. This sum was donated by approximately 62,800 workers. The final quota for the Government was \$400,000. (Wash. Post, Feb. 15.)

**GINGER EXTRACT
WARNING** A warning to the public to avoid the use of Jamaica ginger extract as a beverage was issued yesterday by the United States Public Health Service, according to the press to-day.

**INTERNATIONAL
FARM BANK PRO-
POSED** A Geneva dispatch February 15 says: "A provisional scheme for the creation of an international bank for agricultural credits has resulted from one week's study by a delegation appointed by the League of Nations' financial committee...In its provisional report the delegation suggests the creation of an international institute borrowing on its own credit in the international markets and lending on mortgage security the money so obtained, through the intermediary of national or local institutes...."

Section 2

British Cotton Mills A London dispatch February 14 says: "The textile dispute which has kept 300,000 Lancashire operatives idle for a month reached a sudden end yesterday afternoon. After an unexpected meeting the Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Association decided to withdraw their lockout, discontinue the more-loom-per-weaver experiment at Burnley and open their mills next Monday. The reasons given for the decision are the warning by Philip Snowden, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in Parliament this week, the opening of a big cotton exhibition in London on Monday and a gesture of good-will toward the workers..."

Business Forecasting An editorial in American Bankers Journal for February says: "... A year ago at a meeting of the American Statistical Association in Washington, one of the speakers presented an analysis of the accuracy of a selected list of statistical forecasting agencies in predicting the stock crash. The verdict of the speaker, himself a forecaster, gave the profession a coefficient of accuracy of approximately 50 per cent. Recently a banker whose attitude may have been less sympathetic looked up the predictions made by thirty prophets at the beginning of 1930. Two were right, four partly right, eight were noncommittal and sixteen were dead wrong. Is it not barely possible that the stupendous complexity of modern life defies penetration for purposes of prophecy?"

Cane Cutting Machine "A gargantuan steel monster roared out of the shops of the Allis Chalmers Mfg. Co. at Milwaukee, Wis. It reared up on endless treads to lift its tunnel-like throat clear from the ground. The single operator perched atop this nightmare of a machine--for all the world like an American mahout on a mechanical elephant--made it lunge forward with knives whirling, drums turning, conveyors racing, and fans blowing. A week later, a loud protest roared out of the Cuban Congress. Verbal fury lashed the machine from Milwaukee, which threatened to replace thousands of native laborers. A single (cane-cutting) machine, it was boasted by designers, would do the work of 200 men, and 6 were to be shipped to Cuba. Cubans proposed a customs duty of \$100,000 on every machine, and an annual tax for the same amount. Clandestine use would be punishable by a fine of \$200,000....."(Business Week, Feb. 11.)

Colombian Rice Production An organization has been formed in the department of El Valle to engage in the cultivation of rice in the lowlands along the Cauca River. It is expected that at least 3,000 hectares (hectare equals 2.47 acres) will be planted to this cereal. (El Nuevo Tiempo, Bogota, Sept. 25, 1930.)

Einstein on Economic System Dr. Albert Einstein, author of the theory of relativity, recently answered various questions put to him by Upton Sinclair, the novelist, in behalf of The New Leader, the Socialist weekly. Mr. Sinclair asked, as one question: "Will you tell the American workers what you think about the spectacle of misery and starvation in a land which has such enormous powers of production as the United States? As you know, we are able to produce more food than we can market and we run our factories at only a small percentage of their capacity; and yet many millions of people are in need of food and other primary necessities."

Dr. Einstein replied: "The present severe market crisis is, according to my opinion, a positive proof that the economic organization, so far as one can speak of such a thing to-day, does not satisfy needs. But the establishing of this fact is not to be used as an indictment, but as a motive to seek to regulate economic life in such fashion that the existence of human beings no longer shall be threatened by crises." Doctor Einstein's replies were written in German at the California Institute of Technology, where he is consulting with other scientists. (Press, Feb. 14.)

Unemployment Insurance

A. Cloyd Gill, writing under the title "Unemployment Insurance--Then What?" in American Bankers Association for February, says in part: "A cycle of business depression is not new either to this country, or to the present generation. Twenty years ago, statesmen saw the possibility of a period of general unemployment. It had been, in varying degrees, plaguing nations for a century. Great Britain took the lead, in 1911, and enacted a form of unemployment insurance covering workers in five industries. The basic idea was that if the employer, the employee and the State contributed, during fat years, to a general fund, it could be drawn on in lean years to pay workers in periods of enforced unemployment. No one anticipated payments of the dole to workers making no contribution. Subsequently, eighteen other nations passed laws providing unemployment insurance or subsidies. These systems to-day cover about 50,000,000 workers; they are being constantly modified; most of them have long since ceased to be actuarially sound. The countries where such laws are in force are: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Irish Free State, Italy, Luxemburg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Queensland, Russia, Spain and Switzerland. For some months there has been an insistent demand that compulsory unemployment insurance be legislated in the United States, either by Congress or the State legislatures, or by both....Only two nations can be used with any degree of satisfaction in a study that would be comparable to conditions in the United States. They are Germany and Great Britain....Obviously, the German Government, in an effort to meet deficits, has been forced to float huge loans, thereby adding to her financial difficulties. In Berlin, one-tenth of the population, or more than 400,000 are unemployed. The unemployed in the nation number 4,000,000. Recently, Hermann Dietrich, finance minister, has reached the conclusion of some economists--that Germany's vast unemployment dole should be diverted from the pockets of idle workers to the payrolls of industry. The government is now paying out the dole at the rate of \$750,000,000 annually....The British 'National Insurance Act of 1911,' in the beginning, included both health and unemployment insurance. It was superseded in 1924 by the 'National Health Insurance Act' and in 1926, by the 'Employment Insurance Act and the Widows, Orphans and Old Age Pensions Acts.' In 1929, 'the Health Insurance Act,' with modifications to include many persons not originally entitled to benefits appeared as the 'Statutes, Regulations and Orders Relating to National Health Insurance.' Originally, it applied to 1,200,000 workers. In its present form, after twenty modifications in ten years, it covers 17,000,000 workers out of a total population of 42,000,000. Under the present scheme, the worker contributes fourteen cents a week, the employer sixteen cents and the government pays

one-third. At least, so reads the law. Under the guise of relieving destitution, to preserve the national character of the people, vast sums are being paid to beneficiaries who make no contribution to the insurance fund. The dole is generally \$4.25 a week for an adult up to sixty-five years of age....Many boys draw the dole and live at home; odd-job workers make a few dollars in that manner and also draw the dole. The street beggars--a multitude of them--ask and receive the dole. Fraud, being difficult to detect, and expensive, is rarely prosecuted....Agriculture, which in all nations has served as a sort of shock absorber during periods of industrial unrest, has reacted to unemployment insurance. In dull seasons, farm workers remove to the cities to draw the dole to which they are entitled if whatever odd jobs they pick up do not utilize all their time. Technically, this legislation does not include farm workers. Recently, when Great Britain's unemployment scheme reached a basis of a \$400,000,000 annual outlay, agitation was begun to force the 95,000 supertaxpayers to bear the burden....Other by-products of the dole are: Individuals are drawing benefits from two to five funds, the total being greater than they would receive if regularly employed....A disgrace it was in other years for a man to draw a dole. To-day, in England, it is reported to be approaching an hereditary disease....A significant statement--one that may be a warning to the United States--was made in the December issue of the Nineteenth Century Magazine, of London, in connection with unemployment insurance. It was: 'The nonworkers, with the vote, now control England.'..."

Section 3

Department of
Agriculture

An editorial in The Farmer and Farm, Stock & Home for February 7 says: "Reference was made several months ago to a proposal for the establishment of a Bureau of Agricultural Engineering within the United States Department of Agriculture. As was noted at that time, research work in agricultural engineering has thus far been carried on in the Bureau of Public Roads. Advocates of this proposal have taken considerable satisfaction from the fact that the agricultural appropriation bill for 1932, H.R. 15256, carries an appropriation of \$583,840 for the establishment of such a separate bureau....Recognition of the importance of agricultural engineering is growing rapidly, and the members of the profession are almost unanimous in the opinion that the relief of agriculture will come more largely through better application of engineering principles to farming operations than in any other way....All of these things are being developed and popularized by the work of agricultural engineers in cooperation with other agencies. Inasmuch as engineering research and planning are not closely related to the work of the roads bureau, and in view of the great importance of this work, the establishment of a separate bureau would seem to be a logical step to take...."

Section 4

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Feb. 14.--Livestock: Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.35 to \$7; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.65 to \$7.85; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$7.65. (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations.)

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis $73\frac{3}{4}$ to $77\frac{3}{4}$; No.2 red winter, St. Louis 80 to $81\frac{1}{2}$; No.2 hard winter, Chicago $79\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City 69 to $69\frac{1}{2}$; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 60 to $61\frac{1}{2}$; Minneapolis $52\frac{1}{2}$ to $54\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City $51\frac{1}{2}$ to $53\frac{1}{2}$; No.3 yellow, Chicago $60\frac{1}{4}$ to $62\frac{1}{4}$; Minneapolis $53\frac{1}{2}$ to $57\frac{1}{2}$; St. Louis $59\frac{1}{2}$ to $61\frac{1}{2}$; Kansas City 53 to $55\frac{1}{2}$; No.3 white oats, Minneapolis $29\frac{3}{4}$ to $29\frac{3}{4}$; St. Louis $34\frac{3}{4}$; Kansas City 34 to $34\frac{1}{2}$.

Maine sacked Green Mountain potatoes ranged \$1.65-\$2 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.25-\$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.30-\$1.40 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.10-\$1.15 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York Danish type cabbage \$18-\$20 bulk per ton in terminal markets; few \$11 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.50-\$2 per western lettuce crate in city markets; 65-75¢ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions ranged 50¢-\$1.15 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 65¢-70¢ f.o.b. Rochester. Florida various varieties of strawberries in pony refrigerators 35¢-46¢ per quart in the East; 27-31¢ f.o.b. Plant City. New York Rhode Island Greening apples \$1.25 and McIntosh \$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; Rhode Island Greenings \$1.20 f.o.b. Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 2 points to 10.12¢ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price stood at 15.38¢. March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 3 points to 10.87¢, and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 4 points to 10.90¢.

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, $28\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; 91 score, 28¢; 90 score, $27\frac{3}{4}$ ¢.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, $16\frac{1}{4}$ to 18¢; Single Daisies, 16 to $16\frac{1}{2}$ ¢; Young Americas, $16\frac{3}{4}$ to 17¢. (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

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Vol. XXXX, No. 40

Section 1

February 17, 1931.

HOUSE PASSES BONUS BILL

The House yesterday passed the veterans' loan bill by a vote of 363 to 39. It provides for an increase from $22\frac{1}{2}$ to 50 per cent in the loan value of the adjusted compensation certificates which were approved by the House, 355 to 54, in 1924. (Press, Feb. 17.)

CIVIL SERVICE SALARIES

Complete revision of the classification law was recommended by the Personnel Classification Board, in a report submitted to Congress yesterday, according to the press to-day. The report says: "Salaries of Government employees in the higher salary grades would be increased under the board's plan, as would those of certain experienced employees in lower grades. No class of salaries would be cut...."

RED CROSS FUND

Total subscriptions to the \$10,000,000 drought relief fund amounted to \$8,211,481 last night, the American Red Cross announced, according to the press to-day.

NEW YORK WATER SUPPLY

New York City will go on water rations this summer if rain does not fall in large quantities in the next few months, it was predicted yesterday by William W. Brush, chief engineer of the Department of Water Supply, Gas and Electricity, who said the water shortage still was serious despite the rain and snow that fell last week. (Press, Feb. 17.)

RUSSIAN GRAIN

The Associated Press to-day says: "The continued expansion of Russian wheat acreage was held yesterday by Vice Chairman Stone, of the Federal Farm Board, to emphasize the need for restriction of domestic acreage to meet domestic demand. While world acreage, exclusive of Russia, has increased 26,000,000 acres since 1924, Mr. Stone said, Russian acreage has mounted 31,000,000 in that period. 'That means a bad situation for our growers,' he added, 'if they keep on increasing acreage.'..."

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

Under the stimulus of aggressive pool operations and helped by a growing public demand, the stock market resumed its advance yesterday, according to the press to-day. Net gains among the market leaders ranged from 2 to 8 points.

EGYPTIAN TARIFFS

A Cairo dispatch to-day states that the Egyptian Government last night passed a law, effective immediately, making various changes in customs duties. Some of the principal commodities on which the duties are increased are gasoline, kerosene, alcohol, cotton yarn, cotton textiles, oils, cement and all varieties of preserved and canned fruits and vegetables.

Section 2

Electrical Plant Tests Rensselaer Sill writes under the title "A New Advance in Food Production" in Scientific American for March. He describes a new electrical test which measures the hardiness of plants and helps reduce winter crop losses. He says in part: "Searching for a way of measuring the ability of plants to withstand the hazards of winter, three Wisconsin scientists (S.T. Dexter, W. E. Tottingham, L.F. Graber) have perfected an electrical method for testing hardiness that promises to be of considerable value to agriculture and to unlock research fields only touched upon in the past. The economic importance of such a discovery to American agriculture becomes obvious when it is realized that the hardiness of plants can now be tested with their method in a few minutes, and that severe losses caused by the winter-killing of crops can be reduced....With this method, men of science actually can control the temperature to which the experimental plants are subjected, can measure accurately the effect of low temperatures on different kinds of plants, and can test the hardiness of individual plants in such a way that they will not be destroyed and thus can be used for plant breeding work if desirable....In addition to measuring the hardiness of alfalfa by this electrical method, tests conducted on wheat, apples, raspberries, and other woody plants, indicate that their hardiness also can be measured by the amount of materials lost from their roots. If further research checks these preliminary experiments, facts will be unearthed which may reduce severe winter crop losses, the plant breeder will be able to breed varieties of plants of almost undreamed of hardiness, and it is not altogether visionary to see areas in the Northern States producing crops hitherto limited to the South. Indeed, the food-producing areas of the world may feel the effects of such a discovery more than we suspect. Perhaps the most interesting phase of the electrical test for hardiness in plants is the new research it opens up."

Farm Bureau's Agricultural Outlook An editorial in The Daily Pantagraph for February 13 says: "The inter-dependence of agriculture and industry was well illustrated in the discussions of the farm bureau's agricultural outlook conference in Bloomington Tuesday. The principal cause of low prices is not surplus of goods, but a decline in demand. Some improvements in the business situation and in demand is expected for 1931 and to be reflected to farmers by the latter part of the season. Of special interest to the Corn Belt is the fact that the outlook for crops is not as good as the outlook for hogs and beef cattle. Although dairying and poultry have been expanded to the limit for present or even normal conditions, and the 'in-and-outers' are now going out of business, those producers having good herds and flocks are advised to hang on until normal buying returns. The immediate outlook contains a strong suggestion for the Corn Belt's long time programs. Feed grain production is possible only because there are men who convert that grain into meats, dairy products, eggs. In this time of difficult markets, the converters are in a far better position than those who merely produce the raw product. The combination grain and livestock producer, the man who feeds a good portion or all of his crops, is in the best position to survive. He converts not only the grain into a marketable product, but much of his roughage as well. It appears that livestock is essential in the Corn Belt program."

Horticulture

An editorial in The Washington Farmer for February 5 says: "The Northwest has risen to a commanding place in the production and marketing of fruits and vegetable crops deserving of more public recognition. While grain, hay, livestock and other 'staples' are perhaps more commonly regarded as comprising the foundation of agriculture in the Northwest, the fact sticks out in bold relief that tree, berry and root crops are climbing fast in importance. During the last season their ranking was virtually at the top in cash value, having survived the decline in general prices better than other commodities....Back of this highly specialized industry of fruit, berry and vegetable growing toward which the Northwest seems to be more and more trending, there lies an aggressiveness and technical skill which accounts for its success. Fruit and vegetable growers, by the very exacting nature of their occupations, must be alert to good practice and ever eager to absorb new information that they can apply toward giving their products wider distribution and a new appeal, bringing a higher return. No group of Northwest farmers are employing more intelligence and ingenuity in meeting the problems of their business. The results are telling in a great broad way. Having learned the fundamental lesson that only extra quality products will overcome the Northwest's long distance from markets, the fruit and vegetable industries here are now concentrating on every factor that will bring wider recognition of this quality through consumer education in the large cities. In a race against the 'bulky' agricultural products it is not to be overlooked that these specialized garden, orchard and field delicacies, which bring health and flavor to the Nation's tables, are rapidly characterizing the picture of agriculture in Idaho, Oregon and Washington."

Legislation

An editorial in The Daily Argus-Leader (Sioux Falls, S. Dak.) for Boys for February 12 says: "Having observed through the years the progress and Girls that has been made in the development of facilities for the assistance of the boys and girls of South Dakota, Governor Green views with real alarm the tendency among several legislators to curtail activities such as the 4-H clubs, the Young Citizens' League, child welfare work and vocational education. In a vigorous defense of these activities, the Governor urged appropriations for organizations which help 'to build better men and women from our growing young people.' He said further: 'The wrocking of a program now under way for the boys and girls of the State appeals to me as too serious even though we may save a few thousand dollars.' The Governor's advice is sound and should be received sympathetically. There is, of course, a demand and a justification for rigid economy but not all reductions of expenditures are real economy. Those who have had an opportunity to observe the work of such institutions as the 4-H clubs are convinced that they have a material bearing upon our advancement and should be listed among the finest endeavors of the commonwealth. The expenditures for these purposes are relatively insignificant. If they are eliminated or substantially reduced, the average taxpayer will hardly be able to notice the difference while a material impairment of the available facilities will take place...."



Master Farmers An editorial in The Kansas City Star for February 11 says:
"Supplementing the annual announcements of Master Farmers and Home Makers, which has become a national feature, the Kansas State Board of Agriculture and the Kansas State Agricultural College have seen fit to recognize outstanding achievement of individuals. The recognition at Topeka of Dan D. Casement of Manhattan for his accomplishments in finishing beef cattle to the highest degree was well deserved....At Manhattan last week Fred Morgan, Alta Vista, was honored for his outstanding work in creep feeding calves for market purposes during recent years... The wheat king is Arthur J. White, Coldwater, who has made use of all the methods which insure not only good yields, but a high quality of wheat....The winner of the corn contest, Virgil P. Rush, Severance, not only had to have the ability to grow corn of excellent type and quality. He had to win at a county show to be entitled to compete. His award was not based solely upon the selection of a sample of show corn, but upon yield and viability as well as type. The dairymen of the State whose herds had produced 300 pounds of butterfat were presented with honor certificates. The best record was made by R. L. Evans, Darlow, with an average of 554 pounds of butterfat from eight cows used in the production of market milk. Each of these men is a recognized leader in his own community. His success has come from everyday practice followed through years of hard work and attention to the business principles in farming. Honors represent a record of achievement, an effort to produce abundantly and well."

Railroad Earnings Net earnings of first-class American railroads in 1930 were announced yesterday by the Bureau of Railway Economics as \$885,011,000, compared with \$1,274,605,000 in 1929. The bureau said the return on property value was 3.36 per cent, compared with 4.95 per cent the previous year. The decrease in earnings was attributed primarily to the "drop in traffic caused by business conditions." Passenger traffic in 1930 was said to have been "the smallest since 1906," and the total return from that source, amounting to \$729,000,000, was 16½ per cent under 1929 receipts. Gross income in 1930 was \$5,342,957,000, compared with \$6,360,303,000 in 1929. (Press, Feb. 16.)

Wool Market The Commercial Bulletin (Boston) for February 14 says: "A substantial volume of wool has been moved during the past two weeks, this week being hardly up to last week in point of volume. The finer worsted wools are firm; medium wools are easier and scoureds a bit dearer. On the whole, the market is steady in price but still is well below foreign parity. The foreign markets continue firm with offerings being absorbed steadily, secondary markets being maintained chiefly through firm primary markets for the moment. In the West there is further preshearing business through winter loans to a moderate extent. The earlier clips out of Arizona have been moved fairly well at about 55 cents, clean basis, Boston. The manufacturing outlook is improved and has been quickly reflected in the wool market, although the business which has been done apparently has been chiefly for the Eastern trade."

Section 3 MARKET QUOTATIONS

Farm Products

Feb. 16.--Livestock: Slaughter cattle, calves and vealers; steers (1100-1500 lbs.) good and choice \$9 to \$12; cows, good and choice \$4.50 to \$6.50; heifers (550-850 lbs.) good and choice \$7 to \$10; vealers, good and choice \$8.50 to \$11; feeder and stocker cattle, steers, good and choice \$7 to \$8.50. Heavy weight hogs (250-350 lbs.) good and choice \$6.35 to \$7; light lights (140-160 lbs.) good and choice \$7.80 to \$8; slaughter pigs (100-130 lbs.) good and choice \$6.75 to \$7.85 (soft or oily hogs and roasting pigs excluded from above quotations). Slaughter sheep and lambs: Lambs, good and choice (90 lbs. down) \$8 to \$9; feeding lambs (range stock) medium to choice \$6.50 to \$8.25.

Grain: No.1 dark northern spring wheat (ordinary protein) Minneapolis 73 $5/8\phi$ to 77 $5/8\phi$; No.2 red winter, Chicago 79 ϕ to 79 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; St. Louis 80 to 81 ϕ ; Kansas City 72 to 73 ϕ ; No.2 hard winter 79 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Kansas City 69 to 69 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; No.3 mixed corn, Chicago 59 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 60 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Minneapolis 51 to 53 ϕ ; Kansas City 50 to 52 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; No.3 yellow, Chicago 58 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 62 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Minneapolis 52 to 55 ϕ ; St. Louis 57 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 59 ϕ ; Kansas City 51 to 53 ϕ ; No.3 white oats, Chicago 30 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 32 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Minneapolis 29 $1/8$ to 29 $5/8\phi$; St. Louis 33 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Kansas City 33 to 33 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$.

Maine sacked Green Mountains ranged \$1.65-\$2 per 100 pounds in eastern cities; \$1.25-\$1.30 f.o.b. Presque Isle. Wisconsin sacked Round Whites \$1.30-\$1.40 carlot sales in Chicago; \$1.10-\$1.15 f.o.b. Waupaca. New York and Midwestern sacked yellow varieties of onions brought 50 ϕ -\$1.15 per 100 pounds in consuming centers; 65-80 ϕ f.o.b. Rochester. New York Danish type cabbage \$17-\$20 bulk per ton in terminal markets; few \$11 f.o.b. Rochester. Texas Round type \$1.25-\$2 per western lettuce crate in city markets; 65-75 ϕ f.o.b. Lower Rio Grande Valley points. Florida various varieties of strawberries in 36-pint crates, 16-22 ϕ per pint in eastern and midwestern cities; 13-14 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$ per pint f.o.b. Plant City. New York Rhode Island Greening apples, A 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches up, closed at \$1-\$1.50; McIntosh \$1.50-\$1.75 and Baldwins mostly \$1.50 per bushel basket in New York City; with f.o.b. sales of Baldwins \$1.50 and Rhode Island Greenings \$1.20 in Rochester.

Average price of Middling spot cotton in 10 designated markets declined 1 point to 10.11 ϕ per lb. On the corresponding day one year ago the price was 15.11 ϕ . March future contracts on the New York Cotton Exchange declined 2 points to 10.85 ϕ , and on the New Orleans Cotton Exchange declined 2 points to 10.88 ϕ .

Wholesale prices of fresh creamery butter at New York were: 92 score, 29 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; 91 score, 29 ϕ ; 90 score, 28 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$.

Wholesale prices of No.1 fresh American cheese at New York were: Flats, 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ to 18 ϕ ; Single Daisies, 16 to 16 $\frac{1}{2}\phi$; Young Americas, 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 17 ϕ . (Prepared by Bu. of Agr. Econ.)

